cab•bage /ˈkæbɪʤ/ *noun, pl* **-bag•es**
1 [*count, noncount*] : a leafy vegetable that has several forms; *especially* : one that grows in a tight round shape (called a head) — see color picture on page C4
2 [*count*] *Brit, informal* : VEGETABLE 2

cab•bie *or* **cab•by** /ˈkæbi/ *noun, pl* **-bies** [*count*] *informal* : CABDRIVER

cab•driv•er /ˈkæbˌdraɪvɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a person who drives a taxi

cab•in /ˈkæbən/ *noun, pl* **-ins** [*count*]
1 : a small, simple house made of wood • a *cabin* in the woods • a ***log cabin*** [=a cabin made of logs]
2 a : a room that you can sleep in on a ship or boat **b** : the part of an airplane in which the passengers sit • Don't unbuckle your seat belt until the flight attendant says it is safe to move around the *cabin*.

cabin cruiser *noun, pl* ~ **-er** [*count*] : CRUISER 3

cab•i•net /ˈkæbnɪt/ *noun, pl* **-nets** [*count*]
1 : a piece of furniture that is used for storing things and usually has doors and shelves • a kitchen/medicine *cabinet* — see also FILE CABINET
2 *or* ***Cabinet*** : a group of people who give advice to the leader of a government • the British *cabinet* • a member of the President's *Cabinet* ✧ In British English, *cabinet* in this sense is sometimes used with a plural verb. • The *Cabinet* are meeting now.

cab•i•net•mak•er /ˈkæbnɪtˌmeɪkɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a person who makes fine wooden furniture
– **cab•i•net•mak•ing** /ˈkæbnɪtˌmeɪkɪŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*]

cabin fever *noun* [*noncount*] : an unhappy and impatient feeling that comes from being indoors for too long • She suffered from *cabin fever* during the long winter. • a bad case of *cabin fever*

[1]ca•ble /ˈkeɪbəl/ *noun, pl* **ca•bles**
1 a : a thick, strong rope made of wires that are twisted together [*count*] The bridge is held up by *cables*. [*noncount*] Their company supplied *cable* for the project. **b** [*count*] : a wire that moves a part in a machine • a brake *cable*
2 : a group of wires, glass fibers, etc., covered in plastic or rubber and used to carry electricity or electrical signals [*count*] battery *cables* • computer *cables* • a fiber-optic *cable* [*noncount*] We need more *cable* to hook up the computers.
3 [*count*] : a message sent by telegraph : TELEGRAM
4 [*noncount*] : CABLE TELEVISION • Does our hotel room have *cable*? • The game will be shown on *cable*. • *cable* news • the big *cable* networks/companies • a ***cable box*** [=a box that sends television signals from a cable into the television]

[2]cable *verb* **cables**; **ca•bled**; **ca•bling** : to send a message by telegraph : TELEGRAPH [+ *obj*] She *cabled* the news to the United States. • She *cabled* her parents for money. [*no obj*] The soldiers *cabled* back to headquarters.

cable car *noun, pl* ~ **cars** [*count*]
1 : a vehicle that hangs in the air from a cable that pulls it up and down mountains • The skiers took a *cable car* to the top of the mountain.
2 : a vehicle that is pulled along tracks by a cable • Tourists packed the *cable cars* on the hilly streets of San Francisco.

cable modem *noun, pl* ~ **-dems** [*count*] : a device that connects a computer to a network (such as the Internet) through the same kind of cable used for cable television

cable television *noun* [*noncount*] : a system in which television signals are sent through cables rather than through the air — called also *cable, cable TV*

ca•boo•dle /kəˈbu:dl̩/ *noun*
the whole (kit and) caboodle *US, informal* : EVERYTHING • Her father owned 5 houses and 12 cars, and when he died he left her *the whole caboodle*. • You can buy one of the books every month, or buy *the whole kit and caboodle* at the same time.

ca•boose /kəˈbu:s/ *noun, pl* **-boos•es** [*count*] *US* : a part of a train that is attached at the back end and is used by people who work on the train — called also (*Brit*) *guard's van*

ca•cao /kəˈkaʊ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the dried seeds of a tropical tree that are used to make cocoa and chocolate • a farmer who grows *cacao* • a *cacao*-producing region — often used before another noun • *cacao* seeds/beans [=(more commonly) cocoa beans] • a *cacao* tree

cache /ˈkæʃ/ *noun, pl* **cach•es** [*count*]
1 : a group of things that have been hidden in a secret place because they are illegal or have been stolen • a weapons *cache* used by terrorists • Police found a *cache* of stolen cars in the woods.
2 *technical* : a part of a computer's memory where information is kept so that the computer can find it very quickly • Her new laptop has one megabyte of *cache*. — called also *cache memory*

ca•chet /ˌkæˈʃeɪ/ *noun* — used to say that someone or something is liked or respected by people [*noncount*] a movie director with great artistic *cachet* • social *cachet* [*singular*] His research in Antarctica gave him a certain *cachet* among other scientists.

cack–hand•ed /ˈkækˌhændəd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *Brit, informal* : clumsy or awkward • a *cack-handed* [=*ham-handed*] attempt at being funny

cack•le /ˈkækəl/ *verb* **cack•les**; **cack•led**; **cack•ling** [*no obj*]
1 *of chickens, geese, etc.* : to make loud, unpleasant sounds • The hens were *cackling* in the henhouse. • Geese *cackled* by the pond in the park.
2 : to laugh noisily • I could hear my aunts *cackling* in the next room.
– **cackle** *noun, pl* **cackles** [*count*] • a *cackle* of laughter/delight • the *cackle* of a chicken

ca•coph•o•ny /kæˈkɑ:fəni/ *noun* [*singular*] : unpleasant loud sounds • The sounds of barking dogs and sirens added to the *cacophony* on the streets. — usually + *of* • a *cacophony of* voices
– **ca•coph•o•nous** /kæˈkɑ:fənəs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] • a *cacophonous* birthday party

cac•tus /ˈkæktəs/ *noun, pl* **cac•ti** /ˈkækˌtaɪ/ *or* **cac•tus•es** *also US* **cactus** [*count*] : a plant that lives in the desert and that has many sharp points (called spines) — see color picture on page C6

cad /ˈkæd/ *noun, pl* **cads** [*count*] *old-fashioned* : a rude and selfish man • He is a *cad*, not a gentleman.
– **cad•dish** /ˈkædɪʃ/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] • *caddish* behavior • her *caddish* husband

ca•dav•er /kəˈdævɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *formal* : a dead body : CORPSE

ca•dav•er•ous /kəˈdævərəs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : looking very thin and pale : resembling a corpse • A tall, *cadaverous* man led us into the library. • We saw a *cadaverous* [=*emaciated*] heroin addict sitting in the park.

[1]cad•die *or* **cad•dy** /ˈkædi/ *noun, pl* **-dies** [*count*] : a person who carries a golfer's clubs on the golf course

[2]caddie *or* **caddy** *verb* **caddies**; **cad•died**; **cad•dy•ing** [*no obj*] : to carry a golfer's clubs on the golf course • I *caddied* for Mr. Brewer yesterday.

cad•dy /ˈkædi/ *noun, pl* **-dies** [*count*] : a small box or chest • an antique ***tea caddy*** [=a small box to keep tea in]

ca•dence /ˈkeɪdn̩s/ *noun, pl* **-denc•es**
1 : a regular beat or rhythm [*count*] the steady *cadence* of the drums [*noncount*] Oars moved back and forth in smooth *cadence*.
2 [*count*] : the way a person's voice changes by gently rising and falling while he or she is speaking • He speaks with a soft Southern *cadence*.
3 [*count*] : an ending part of a piece of music

ca•den•za /kəˈdɛnzə/ *noun, pl* **-zas** [*count*] : a difficult part of a piece of classical music that is performed by only one person near the end of the piece

ca•det /kəˈdɛt/ *noun, pl* **-dets** [*count*] : a student at a military school who is preparing to be an officer • a naval *cadet* — see also SPACE CADET

cadge /ˈkæʤ/ *verb* **cadg•es**; **cadged**; **cadg•ing** [+ *obj*] : to persuade someone to give you (something) for free • He spent his time trying to *cadge* [=*beg, bum, scrounge*] drinks from the customers. • She *cadged* money from her sister.

cad•mi•um /ˈkædmijəm/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a bluish-white metal that is used especially in protective coatings and in batteries

caesarean, caesarean section *variant spellings of* CESAREAN, CESAREAN SECTION

ca•fé *also* **ca•fe** /kæˈfeɪ, *Brit* ˈkæˌfeɪ/ *noun, pl* **-fés** *also* **-fes** [*count*] : a small restaurant where you can get simple meals and drinks (such as coffee)
sidewalk café *or Brit* ***pavement café*** : a café that has tables and chairs outside near the street

caf•e•te•ria /ˌkæfəˈtirijə/ *noun, pl* **-rias** [*count*] : a place (such as a restaurant or a room in a school) where people get food at a counter and carry it to a table for eating • a school *cafeteria*

caff /ˈkæf/ *noun, pl* **caffs** [*count*] *Brit, informal* : CAFÉ

caf•fein•at•ed /ˈkæfəˌneɪtəd/ *adj* : containing caffeine ▪ *caffeinated* beverages — opposite DECAFFEINATED

caf•feine /kæˈfiːn, *Brit* ˈkæˌfiːn/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a substance that is found especially in coffee and tea and that makes you feel more awake ▪ Her doctor told her to avoid *caffeine*. ▪ ***caffeine-free*** [=*decaffeinated*] coffee/soda

caf•fe lat•te /ˈkɑːfeɪˈlɑːteɪ, *Brit* ˈkæfeɪˈlæteɪ/ *noun, pl* ~ **-tes** [*count*] : a drink that is made by mixing a type of strong coffee (called espresso) with hot milk — called also *latte*

caf•tan *or* **kaf•tan** /ˈkæfˌtæn/ *noun, pl* **-tans** [*count*] : a long piece of clothing with long sleeves that is worn by men in countries that are just east of the Mediterranean Sea

cage /ˈkeɪʤ/ *noun, pl* **cag•es** [*count*] : a box made of wire or metal bars in which people keep animals or birds ▪ a hamster/monkey/parrot *cage* — see also BIRDCAGE, RIB CAGE

rattle someone's cage *informal* : to make someone feel worried or upset ▪ Don't worry about what he said. He was just trying to *rattle your cage*.

caged /ˈkeɪʤd/ *adj* : kept in a cage ▪ a *caged* lion ▪ He felt like a *caged* animal at his old job.

ca•gey *also* **ca•gy** /ˈkeɪʤi/ *adj* **ca•gi•er**; **-est**

1 : not willing to say everything that you know about something — often + *about* ▪ Officials are *cagey about* saying who met with the mayor.

2 : careful to avoid being trapped or tricked ▪ a *cagey* [=*crafty*] lawyer ▪ *cagey* [=*savvy*] consumers ▪ a *cagey* old farmer

3 : very clever ▪ a *cagey* prisoner ▪ a *cagey* move

– **ca•gi•ly** /ˈkeɪʤəli/ *adv* – **cag•i•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

ca•hoots /kəˈhuːts/ *noun*

in cahoots *informal* : working together or making plans together in secret — usually + *with* ▪ He was robbed by a man who was *in cahoots with* the bartender.

Cain see *raise Cain* at ¹RAISE

cairn /ˈkeɚn/ *noun, pl* **cairns** [*count*] : a pile of stones that marks a place (such as the place where someone is buried or a battle took place) or that shows the direction of a trail

ca•jole /kəˈʤoʊl/ *verb* **-joles**; **-joled**; **-jol•ing** [+ *obj*] : to persuade someone to do something or to give you something by making promises or saying nice things — often + *into* ▪ She had to *cajole* [=*coax*] her husband *into* going with her. ▪ My roommate *cajoled* me *into* lending him money for pizza. — often + *from* ▪ My roommate *cajoled* [=*wheedled*] money *from* me. ▪ The reporter *cajoled* information *from* the hospital staff.

¹Ca•jun /ˈkeɪʤən/ *noun, pl* **-juns** [*count*] : a person from Louisiana whose ancestors were French Canadian

²Cajun *adj*

1 : made by or relating to the Cajuns ▪ *Cajun* music ▪ *Cajun* culture

2 : prepared in a cooking style developed by the Cajuns and usually including spicy seasonings ▪ *Cajun* chicken ▪ *Cajun* food/cuisine

¹cake /ˈkeɪk/ *noun, pl* **cakes**

1 : a sweet baked food made from a mixture of flour, sugar, and other ingredients (such as eggs and butter) [*count*] I made/baked three *cakes* for the party. ▪ He blew out the candles on his ***birthday cake***. ▪ a ***wedding cake*** [*noncount*] a slice/piece of chocolate *cake* — often used before another noun ▪ (*US*) a *cake* pan = (*Brit*) a *cake* tin ▪ *cake* mix [=a combination of all the dry ingredients needed to make a cake] — see picture at BAKING; see also FRUITCAKE, POUND CAKE, SPONGE CAKE, TEA CAKE, UPSIDE-DOWN CAKE

2 [*count*] : a mixture of food that has been shaped into a ball or a flat round shape and baked or fried ▪ crab/clam/rice *cakes* ▪ potato *cakes* — see also FISH CAKE, PANCAKE

3 [*count*] : something that is shaped like a rectangular block ▪ a *cake* of soap = a soap *cake*

4 [*noncount*] *US, informal* : something that is very easy to do ▪ That test was *cake*. — see also PIECE OF CAKE

a slice of the cake *Brit* : a portion or share of something ▪ My business partner agreed to split the profits equally, but I know he wanted a bigger *slice of the cake*. [=*piece/slice/share of the pie*]

have your cake and eat it too (*US*) *or Brit* ***have your cake and eat it*** : to have or enjoy the good parts of something without having or dealing with the bad parts ▪ They seem to think they can *have their cake and eat it too* by having excellent schools for their son without paying high taxes.

icing on the cake see ICING

take the cake *chiefly US* : to win the prize in a contest — used to describe something that is extremely surprising, foolish, annoying, etc. ▪ You've done some silly things, but this one really *takes the cake*! [=(*Brit*) *takes the biscuit*] [=this is the silliest thing you have ever done]

²cake *verb* **cakes**; **caked**; **cak•ing**

1 [+ *obj*] : to cover something with an outer layer that becomes hard as it dries — usually used as *(be) caked* ▪ Mud *was caked* all over the sides of his truck. = The sides of his truck *were caked* [=*covered*] in/with mud.

2 [*no obj*] : to become dry and hard ▪ The mud had *caked* on his boots.

cake•hole /ˈkeɪkˌhoʊl/ *noun, pl* **-holes** [*count*] *Brit, informal* : someone's mouth ▪ Shut your *cakehole*! [=(*US*) *pie hole*]

cake•walk /ˈkeɪkˌwɑːk/ *noun* [*singular*]

1 : an easy contest to win ▪ She expected the election to be a *cakewalk*.

2 : an easy task : PIECE OF CAKE ▪ Reducing the state budget is not going to be a *cakewalk*.

cal•a•mine /ˈkæləˌmaɪn/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a pink liquid that is used to treat skin that is sore, itchy, sunburned, etc. — called also *calamine lotion*

ca•lam•i•tous /kəˈlæmətəs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* : causing great harm or suffering : DISASTROUS ▪ a *calamitous* oil spill ▪ the *calamitous* state of the nation's economy

ca•lam•i•ty /kəˈlæməti/ *noun, pl* **-ties** *formal* : an event that causes great harm and suffering : DISASTER [*count*] floods, earthquakes, and other *calamities* ▪ an economic *calamity* [*noncount*] He predicted *calamity* for the economy.

cal•ci•um /ˈkælsijəm/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a substance that is found in most plants and animals and that is especially important in people for strong healthy bones ▪ Her doctor said she should eat more foods that are high in *calcium*, such as milk and cheese.

cal•cu•late /ˈkælkjəˌleɪt/ *verb* **-lates**; **-lat•ed**; **-lat•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to find (a number, answer, etc.) by using mathematical processes ▪ *calculate* the volume of a cylinder ▪ *calculate* mass/area/distance/speed ▪ I need to *calculate* how long it will take me to drive to Chicago. ▪ We *calculated* the cost of new carpeting for the whole house.

2 : to get a general idea about the value, size, or cost of (something) : ESTIMATE ▪ We need to *calculate* our chances of success before we invest more money in the business.

cal•cu•lat•ed /ˈkælkjəˌleɪtəd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : carefully planned for a particular and often improper purpose ▪ The TV ads were a *calculated* [=*deliberate*] attempt to deceive voters. ✧ A ***calculated risk*** is one that is accepted after careful thought about the possible good and bad results of a particular action. ▪ The army took a *calculated risk* when it attacked the enemy's capital without using planes.

cal•cu•lat•ing /ˈkælkjəˌleɪtɪŋ/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : carefully thinking about and planning actions for selfish or improper reasons ▪ a cold and *calculating* [=*scheming*] criminal

cal•cu•la•tion /ˌkælkjəˈleɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**

1 : a process or result of calculating something [*count*] According to experts' *calculations*, that star will explode within two billion years. ▪ The computer can do millions of *calculations* each second. [*noncount*] Careful *calculation* is required to determine the required amount of fuel.

2 : careful thought and planning that is done usually for selfish reasons [*count*] The book reveals the cold *calculations* that were behind the government's policies. [*noncount*] His positions are based on political *calculation* of what voters want to hear.

cal•cu•la•tor /ˈkælkjəˌleɪtɚ/ *noun, pl* **-tors** [*count*] : a small electronic device that is used for adding, subtracting, etc. ▪ a ***pocket calculator*** [=a calculator that can fit in a shirt pocket] — see picture at OFFICE

cal•cu•lus /ˈkælkjələs/ *noun* [*noncount*] : an advanced branch of mathematics that deals mostly with rates of change and with finding lengths, areas, and volumes

caldron *variant spelling of* CAULDRON

cal•en•dar /ˈkæləndɚ/ *noun, pl* **-dars** [*count*]

1 : a document, chart, etc., that shows the days, weeks, and months of a year ▪ a wall/desk *calendar* ▪ an appointment/engagement *calendar*

2 : a list or schedule of events or activities that occur at different times throughout the year ▪ The university's academic *calendar* runs from September to May.

3 : a particular system for organizing the days of the year by month ▪ the Jewish *calendar* ▪ the Mayan *calendar*

calendar year *noun, pl* ~ **years** [*count*] : the period of

time from January 1 to December 31 — compare FISCAL YEAR

[1]calf /ˈkæf, *Brit* ˈkɑːf/ *noun, pl* **calves** /ˈkævz, *Brit* ˈkɑːvz/ [*count*]
1 : a very young cow
2 : the young of various other large animals (such as the elephant or whale)
– compare [2]CALF

[2]calf *noun, pl* **calves** [*count*] : the muscular back part of the leg below the knee — see picture at HUMAN — compare [1]CALF

calf•skin /ˈkæfˌskɪn, *Brit* ˈkɑːfˌskɪn/ *noun* [*noncount*] : leather made from the skin of a calf • Her boots are made of *calfskin*. • *calfskin* gloves

cal•i•ber (*US*) *or Brit* **cal•i•bre** /ˈkæləbɚ/ *noun, pl* **-bers**
1 [*noncount*] : level of excellence, skill, etc. • The school will only hire teachers of the highest *caliber*. [=will only hire the best teachers] • I was impressed by the high *caliber* of the team's work. • It is exciting to meet a writer of his *caliber*. [=a writer as good/skillful as he is] • The two colleges are not of the same *caliber*. [=one of the colleges is better than the other]
2 [*count*] : a measurement of the width of a bullet or a gun barrel • a .22-*caliber* bullet [=a bullet that is 22 hundredths of an inch in diameter] • a high-*caliber* bullet

cal•i•brate /ˈkæləˌbreɪt/ *verb* **-brates**; **-brat•ed**; **-brat•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to adjust or mark (something, such as a measuring device) so that it can be used in an accurate and exact way • *calibrate* a thermometer
2 : to measure (something) in an exact and precise way • carefully *calibrate* the dosage of a medicine
– **cal•i•bra•tion** /ˌkæləˈbreɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count, noncount*]

cal•i•co /ˈkælɪˌkoʊ/ *noun, pl* **-coes** *or* **-cos**
1 [*noncount*] *US* : a light, printed cotton cloth
2 [*noncount*] *Brit* : a heavy, plain white cotton cloth
3 [*count*] *US* : a cat that has white, brown, and black fur — called also *calico cat*
– **calico** *adj* • a *calico* dress

cal•i•per (*US*) *or Brit* **cal•li•per** /ˈkæləpɚ/ *noun, pl* **-pers**
1 [*count*] : a tool that has two narrow legs which can be adjusted to measure the thickness or width of something — usually plural • a pair of *calipers*
2 *callipers* [*plural*] *Brit* : metal devices that are worn to support legs that have been weakened by injury or disease • recovered enough to walk without *callipers* [=(*US*) *braces*]

ca•liph *or* **ca•lif** /ˈkeɪlɪf/ *noun, pl* **-liphs** *or* **-lifs** [*count*] : an important Muslim political and religious leader

cal•is•then•ics (*chiefly US*) *or Brit* **cal•lis•then•ics** /ˌkæləsˈθɛnɪks/ *noun* [*plural*] : physical exercises that are done without special equipment • The players warmed up for the game by doing *calisthenics*.
– **cal•is•then•ic** (*chiefly US*) *or Brit* **cal•lis•then•ic** /ˌkæləsˈθɛnɪk/ *adj* • *calisthenic* exercises

[1]call /ˈkɑːl/ *verb* **calls**; **called**; **call•ing**
1 a *always followed by an adverb or preposition* : to speak in a loud voice [*no obj*] He *called* to passersby for help. • She *called* up to her husband, who was at the top of the stairs. • Her husband *called* back down to her. • She saw her friends across the street and *called* over/across to them. [+ *obj*] He *called* her name in his sleep. — see also CALL OUT 1 (below)
b [+ *obj*] : to announce or read (something) in a loud voice • *call* the roll • *call* (off) a row of figures • They're *calling* [=*announcing*] our flight: it's boarding at gate 57. — see also CALL OUT 1 (below)
c [*no obj*] *of a bird or animal* : to make the sound that is usual for a particular type of bird or animal • The birds were *calling* as the sun rose.
2 : to make a telephone call [*no obj*] I *call* once a week to talk to my parents. • Where are you *calling* from? • May I say who's *calling*? • Thank you for *calling*. • Please *call* back/again later. • She *called* long-distance. [+ *obj*] I try to *call* my parents at least once a week. • She *called* me long-distance. • I *called* the office to get some information. • Please *call* us back/again later. • Don't *call* us—we'll *call* you. • In an emergency you should *call* [=*dial*] 911. • *Call* me when you get back from your vacation. — see also CALL 3b (below), CALL IN 1 (below), CALL UP 1 (below)
3 [+ *obj*] **a** : to tell, order, or ask (someone or something) to come • I *called* the waiter over (to my table) and asked for the check, and then I *called* him back to order something else. • My dog comes running when he's *called*. • She was *called* to court to testify. • He was *called* to the office for an interview. • soldiers who have been *called* to active duty • He's not home because he was ***called away*** on business. **b** : to make a telephone call to tell, order, or ask (someone or something) to come • We had to *call* an ambulance. • He *called* a taxi but it still hasn't come. • He *called* a taxi for me. = He *called* me a taxi. — see also CALL 2 (above)
4 [+ *obj*] **a** : to give a name to (someone or something) • Her parents *called* [=*named*] her Katherine after/for her grandmother. • The immigrants settled along the river and *called* their new town "Brookhaven." **b** : to talk to or refer to (someone or something) with a specified name • Her name is Katherine but her friends all *call* her "Kitty." • This part of the city is *called* "The Old Town." • It's important to *call* things by their right names. • Human beings belong to a large group of animals *called* "mammals." • The other children ***called him (bad) names***. [=the other children spoke to him with cruel and insulting words in place of his name] — see also NAME-CALLING **c** : to regard or think of (someone or something) in a certain way • Some people say he's a good man, but I *call* him a fool. [=I consider him to be a fool] • She went out in the rain without an umbrella? I *call* that pretty foolish. • He's not what you would *call* a generous man. [=he's not a generous man] • Her sense of humor is what you might *call* subtle. [=she has a subtle sense of humor] • (You can) *Call* me foolish if you like, but I still think people are basically good. • It costs 99 cents: let's *call* it an even dollar for simplicity's sake. • You may not agree with him, but he ***calls them like he sees them***! [=he states his opinion in an open, honest, and direct way] • You did me a favor and I did you a favor, so let's ***call it even***.
5 [+ *obj*] : to give the order for (something, such as a meeting) • *call* [=*convene*] a meeting • *call* an election • The union has threatened to *call* a strike against the company. • The chairman ***called a halt to*** [=*stopped*] the discussion.
6 [*no obj*] : to make a brief visit • He *called* to pay his respects. • We're planning to *call* [=*stop*] at a friend's house on the way home. — see also CALL AT (below), CALL FOR 2 (below), CALL IN 2 (below), CALL ON 5 (below)
7 [+ *obj*] : to say or guess what the result of something will be • Nobody else thought the election would turn out as it did, but he *called* [=*predicted*] it exactly right! • You *called* it! [=you correctly said what would happen] • *call* the toss of a coin • We flipped a coin; he *called* heads, and heads it was! • The election is still ***too close to call***. [=the election is too close to say who will win]
8 [+ *obj*] *sports* **a** : to stop or cancel (something, such as a baseball game) because of bad conditions • The game was *called* on account of rain. **b** : to make an official ruling or decision about (something, such as a pitched ball or a player's action) • Only the umpire has the right to *call* balls and strikes. • The pitch was *called* a strike. [=the umpire said that the pitch was a strike] • The umpire *called* the runner safe/out. • *call* a serve in/out • She was *called* for being offside. [=the official said that she was offside] **c** *American football* : to say or decide what kind of play will be used • The quarterback *called* a running play.
9 *poker* : to require (a player) to show a hand by making an equal bet [+ *obj*] I *call* you. [*no obj*] I *call*.
call a spade a spade see SPADE
call at [*phrasal verb*] ***call at (a place)*** *of a boat or ship* : to stop at (a place) briefly • The ship *called at* the port.
call down [*phrasal verb*] ***call down (something)*** *or* ***call (something) down*** *literary* : to pray or ask God to do something to someone • He *called down* a blessing/curse on the king. [=he prayed that the king would be blessed/cursed]
call for [*phrasal verb*] **1** ***call for (something)*** **a** : to say or demand publicly that something is needed or should be done • The opposition has *called for* an investigation. • The government has *called for* [=*asked for*] calm and restraint. **b** : to indicate that something is needed or should be done • The plan *calls for* three windows to be added. • You've won! That *calls for* a celebration! [=we should celebrate because you've won] **c** : to require or demand (something) as necessary or proper • The job *calls for* typing skills. [=you must have typing skills to do the job] • Action is urgently *called for* [=*needed*] in order to avert catastrophe! • These new problems *call for* [=*require*] further investigation. • His rude behavior was ***not called for***. [=his behavior was uncalled-for/inappropriate] **2** ***call for (someone or something)*** : to go to a place to get (someone or something) • I'll *call for* you (at your house) after dinner.
call forth [*phrasal verb*] ***call forth (something)*** *or* ***call (some-***

C

thing) forth : to bring (a memory, image, etc.) into the mind ▪ These events *call forth* [=*elicit, evoke*] strong feelings.

call in [*phrasal verb*] **1 a** : to make a telephone call to a place (such as the place where you work) ▪ She ***called in sick*** yesterday. [=she telephoned the place where she works to say that she was sick and would not be coming to work] **b** : to make a telephone call to a radio or television program ▪ Thousands of people *called in* to make a donation. ▪ Many people have *called in* (to the show) with questions about the new law. — see also CALL-IN **c** ***call (something) in*** *or* ***call in (something)*** : to deliver (something, such as a message) by making a telephone call ▪ He *called in* an order for pizza. **2** : to go in somewhere to make a visit — often + *on* ▪ I *called in on* an old friend [=I visited an old friend] while I was in New York on business. **3** ***call (something) in*** *or* ***call in (something)*** **a** : to say that something that has been given or sent should be returned ▪ The manufacturer has *called in* all its defective products. **b** : to demand payment of (a loan) ▪ The bank has *called in* the loan. **4** ***call (someone) in*** *or* ***call in (someone)*** : to ask for the help or services of (someone) ▪ They may have to *call in* a mediator to settle the strike. ▪ Rescue workers have been *called in* to help search for survivors.

call into action see ACTION

call into question *also US* ***call into doubt*** : to make people doubt something ▪ His report *calls into question* the earlier reports we had. [=his report makes us feel not certain that the earlier reports were true] ▪ This news *calls* her loyalty *into question*. [=makes people doubt that she is loyal]

call it a day/night : to stop an activity (such as work) for the remainder of the day or night ▪ We've done enough work for now: let's *call it a day*. ▪ It's getting late. I think we should *call it a night*.

call it quits see QUITS

call off [*phrasal verb*] **1** ***call off (something)*** *or* ***call (something) off*** : to stop doing or planning to do (something) ▪ We had to *call off* [=*cancel*] our trip. ▪ The police have decided to *call* the investigation *off*. [=to stop the investigation] **2** ***call off (someone or something)*** *or* ***call (someone or something) off*** : to cause or tell (a person or animal) to stop attacking, chasing, etc. ▪ The dog was barking and growling at me until its owner *called* it *off*.

call on/upon [*phrasal verb*] **1** ***call on/upon (someone or something)*** : to ask (someone or something) to do something : to say that someone or something should do something — followed by *to* + *verb* ▪ The opposition has *called on/upon* the governor *to resign*. [=the opposition has said that the governor should resign] ▪ You may be *called upon to do* several jobs. ▪ Universities are *called upon to produce* trained professionals. [=it is the job of universities to produce trained professionals] **2** ***call on/upon (someone)*** : to ask for help from (someone) ▪ Is there anyone you can *call on* in an emergency? **3** ***call on/upon (something)*** : to use (something, such as a talent or skill) ▪ She had to *call on/upon* all her reserves of strength and skill to meet the challenge. **4** ***call on (someone)*** : to ask for a response from (someone, such as a student) ▪ I was hoping the teacher wouldn't *call on* me, because I didn't know the answer. **5** ***call on (someone)*** : to make a brief visit to (someone) ▪ I'm planning to *call on* an old friend after I leave here. **6** ***call (someone) on (something)*** *US, informal* : to directly criticize (someone) for (something, such as bad behavior) ▪ He's incredibly rude, but no one ever *calls* him *on* it. [=no one ever tells him that he should stop being so rude]

call out [*phrasal verb*] **1** ***call out*** *or* ***call (something) out*** *or* ***call out (something)*** : to speak in a loud voice ▪ He *called out* to passersby for help. ▪ He *called out* in his sleep. : to say (something) in a loud voice ▪ He *called out* her name in his sleep. ▪ He *called out* a cry for help. : to announce or read (something) in a loud voice ▪ *call out* a number **2** ***call out (someone)*** *or* ***call (someone) out*** **a** : to order or tell (a group of people, such as soldiers) to come or go somewhere ▪ The governor has *called out* troops to help control the riot. ▪ Emergency workers were *called out* to help with efforts to control the flood. **b** : to order or tell (workers) to go on strike ▪ Factory workers are expected to be *called out* on strike if a new contract isn't signed by tomorrow.

call (someone) on the carpet see ¹CARPET

call (something) to order see ¹ORDER

call the shots see ¹SHOT

call the tune see ¹TUNE

call time see ¹TIME

call to account see ¹ACCOUNT

call to mind see ¹MIND

call up [*phrasal verb*] **1** ***call (someone) up*** *or* ***call up (someone)*** *chiefly US* : to make a telephone call to (someone) ▪ I haven't spoken to her in years, but I *called* her *up* last night and we talked for hours. ▪ *Call* me *up* when you get back from your vacation. ▪ I *called up* my doctor and made an appointment. **2** ***call (something) up*** *or* ***call up (something)*** **a** : to bring (something, such as a memory) into the mind ▪ The sound of the ocean *called up* [=*brought back*] memories of my childhood. **b** : to bring (strength, courage, etc.) from within yourself ▪ He will have to *call up* all his reserves of strength to meet this challenge. **c** : to get (something) from the memory of a computer and show it on the screen ▪ *call up* an old document for revision **3** ***call (someone) up*** *or* ***call up (someone)*** **a** : to order or tell (someone) to come or appear ▪ The prisoner was *called up* before a magistrate. **b** : to bring (an athlete) to a higher league ▪ a minor-league player who is being *called up* to the major leagues **c** : to order (soldiers) to come for active military duty ▪ *call up* the reserves — see also CALL-UP

call your bluff see ²BLUFF

²call *noun, pl* calls

1 [*count*] : an act of using the telephone : an act of calling someone on the telephone ▪ a phone/telephone *call* ▪ A local *call* costs less than a long-distance or an international *call*. ▪ If there are any *calls* for me during the meeting, say that I'll call back later. ▪ I got a *call* from my brother last night. ▪ incoming/outgoing *calls* ▪ "There's someone on the phone for you, sir." "Tell them I can't ***take their call*** now [=I can't speak to them on the phone now] but I'll ***return their call*** [=I'll call them back] as soon as I can." ▪ ***Give me a call*** when you get back from your trip. [=call me when you get back] — see also TOLL CALL, TRUNK CALL, WAKE-UP CALL

2 [*count*] **a** : an act of calling with the voice : a loud cry or shout ▪ He gave a *call* to passersby for help. **b** : the sound made by an animal or bird ▪ We heard a bird that had a very loud and unusual *call*. **c** : an imitation of the sound made by a bird or animal ▪ He's an expert at doing bird *calls*. **d** : a device that is used to imitate the sound made by a bird ▪ He has a large collection of duck *calls*. **e** : a loud sound or signal made with a musical instrument ▪ a bugle *call* ▪ the *call* of a trumpet

3 a [*count*] : a public request or statement that asks or tells people to do something ▪ The government has issued a *call* to its supporters to defend it and hopes they will answer/heed its *call*. ▪ issue a *call* = put out a *call* ▪ The campaigners renewed their *calls* for reform. ▪ Their *calls* have gone unheeded. ▪ The political party has issued a ***call to action***. — see also CLARION CALL, CURTAIN CALL, *call to arms* at ²ARM **b** : a request for something [*count*] We get many *calls* for Christmas stories. [*noncount*] There's ***not much call for*** ice cream at this time of year. [=not many people want ice cream at this time of year] ▪ There is ***very little call for*** his services during the summer. **c** [*noncount*] : a reason for doing something — used in negative statements to criticize someone's behavior ▪ There was ***no call for*** your rudeness. = There was *no call for* you to behave so rudely. [=you were wrong to behave so rudely; your rudeness was uncalled-for]

4 [*count*] : a brief visit ▪ I made/paid a brief social *call* on an old friend. = I paid an old friend a brief social *call*. ▪ The ship made a *call* at Newport [=the ship stopped briefly at Newport] before proceeding to New Orleans. ▪ The doctor was on a *call* when her patient came to the office. — see also HOUSE CALL, PORT OF CALL

5 [*count*] : something that is called or announced ▪ I flipped a coin, and the *call* was heads.; *especially* : an announcement telling passengers to get on a plane, train, etc., that will be leaving soon ▪ This is the last *call* for Flight 139, now boarding at Gate 57. = This is the last *call* for passengers to board Flight 139 at Gate 57. — see also LAST CALL

6 [*count*] **a** : a decision made by an official in a sports contest ▪ The runner was called out at home plate, and the manager came out to argue about the *call*. **b** *chiefly US* : a decision ▪ "Should we stay or go?" "I don't know. It's a tough *call* (to make)." ▪ I'll let you make the *call*. ▪ "How should we deal with this problem?" "I don't know: ***it's your call***." [=you can decide how we should deal with this problem] — see also CLOSE CALL, JUDGMENT CALL

7 [*singular*] : the appeal or attraction of something that makes a person want to go somewhere ▪ sailors who cannot resist the *call* of the open ocean ▪ He ***heard the call of the wild***. [=he felt the desire to go out to wild places far away

from most people] — see also CALL OF NATURE
8 [*count*] : something that requires a person's attention or effort — + *on* ▪ There are many *calls* [=*demands*] *on* the time of a busy housewife. [=there are many things that a busy housewife must spend time doing]
at someone's beck and call see ¹BECK
on call : available to be called when needed : ready to come when needed ▪ a doctor who is *on call* throughout the day

call·back /ˈkɑːlˌbæk/ *noun, pl* **-backs** [*count*]
1 : a return telephone call ▪ She got constant *callbacks* from the salesman even after she asked him to stop calling.
2 : an official request or order for someone or something to return: such as **a** : a call for employees to come back to work ▪ With the latest *callback*, the factory will employ 30,000 workers. **b** : a request to a worker to come back and fix problems ▪ If he used better materials, he wouldn't have so many *callbacks*.

call box *noun, pl* ~ **boxes** [*count*]
1 *US* : a telephone that is located on the side of a road and that is used for reporting emergencies
2 *Brit* : a public telephone booth

call·er /ˈkɑːlɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a person who calls: such as **a** : a person who makes a telephone call ▪ The police have received information from an anonymous *caller*. **b** : a person who comes to visit someone ▪ She's had several *callers* at her house in the past few days.

caller display *noun* [*noncount*] *Brit* : CALLER ID

caller ID *noun* [*noncount*] : a service that allows you to see who is calling before you answer a telephone call ▪ a phone system with *caller ID* — called also (*Brit*) *caller display*

call forwarding *noun* [*noncount*] : a service that allows you to have a telephone call sent to a different number

call girl *noun, pl* ~ **girls** [*count*] : a prostitute who arranges to meet with men who call her on the telephone

cal·lig·ra·phy /kəˈlɪgrəfi/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the art of making beautiful handwriting ▪ Arabic *calligraphy*
– **cal·lig·ra·pher** /kəˈlɪgrəfɚ/ *noun, pl* **-phers** [*count*]

call–in /ˈkɑːlˌɪn/ *noun, pl* **-ins** [*count*] *US* : a radio or television show in which telephone calls from members of the audience are included as part of the broadcast — usually used before another noun ▪ a *call–in* radio show — called also (*chiefly Brit*) *phone-in*; see also *call in* 1b at ¹CALL

call·ing /ˈkɑːlɪŋ/ *noun, pl* **-ings** [*count*]
1 : a strong desire to spend your life doing a certain kind of work (such as religious work) ▪ He had always felt a *calling* to help others. ▪ He experienced a *calling* to enter the priesthood. ▪ For Mary, teaching wasn't a job, it was a *calling*. [=*vocation*]
2 : the work that a person does or should be doing ▪ She discovered architecture as her true *calling* [=*vocation*] while in college. ▪ He feels he ***missed his calling*** [=did not have the career he should have] by not becoming a doctor.

calling card *noun, pl* ~ **cards** [*count*] *US*
1 : a plastic card that allows a person to charge telephone calls to an account — called also *phone card*
2 *old-fashioned* : a small card presented when making a formal visit to someone that has the name and sometimes the address of the visitor — often used figuratively to describe something that identifies a particular person or group ▪ The young actor's bright smile is his *calling card*. — called also (*Brit*) *visiting card*

call letters *noun* [*plural*] : CALL SIGN

call number *noun, pl* ~ **-bers** [*count*] : a combination of numbers and letters that is used to show where a book is located in a library

call of nature *noun*
the call of nature *humorous* : the need to use a toilet ▪ He had to leave suddenly to answer/obey *the call of nature*.

cal·lous /ˈkæləs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *disapproving* : not feeling or showing any concern about the problems or suffering of other people ▪ a selfish and *callous* young man ▪ a *callous* refusal to help the poor ▪ a very *callous* remark
– **cal·lous·ly** *adv* ▪ Some of us were treated *callously*.
– **cal·lous·ness** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ *callousness* toward the poor

cal·loused /ˈkæləst/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : having hard and thick skin : having calluses ▪ *calloused* hands/feet

cal·low /ˈkæloʊ/ *adj* **cal·low·er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~] *often disapproving* — used to describe a young person who does not have much experience and does not know how to behave the way adults behave ▪ a *callow* [=*immature*] youth ▪ training *callow* [=*inexperienced*] recruits for the army
– **cal·low·ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

call sign *noun, pl* ~ **signs** [*count*] : a combination of letters and numbers that is used to identify someone or something in a radio broadcast

call–up /ˈkɑːlˌʌp/ *noun, pl* **-ups**
1 [*count*] *sports* **a** : a decision to bring an athlete to play in a higher league ▪ a minor-league baseball player who is hoping for a *call-up* to the major leagues **b** : a player who is brought up to a higher league ▪ The pitcher in tonight's game is a recent *call-up* from the minors.
2 : an order telling someone to report for military service [*count*] military *call-ups* [*noncount*] He opposes the *call-up* of more troops. — often used before another noun ▪ They received their *call-up* notices. — see also *call up* at ¹CALL

cal·lus /ˈkæləs/ *noun, pl* **-lus·es** [*count*] : a hard and thickened area on the skin and especially on the hands or feet

call waiting *noun* [*noncount*] : a service that makes it possible for someone who is speaking on the telephone to receive another call without ending the first one ▪ Do you have *call waiting*?

¹calm /ˈkɑːm/ *adj* **calm·er**; **-est**
1 : not angry, upset, excited, etc. ▪ The teacher asked us to remain/stay *calm* after the fire alarm went off. ▪ The capital city was *calm* despite rumors of a possible terrorist attack. [=people in the city behaved in the usual way; there was not a lot of excited or fearful activity in the city] ▪ Let's try to have a *calm* discussion about your grades. ▪ My brother is always ***calm, cool, and collected***. [=he never gets very upset]
2 — used to describe weather that is not windy, stormy, etc. ▪ a *calm* day ▪ They're predicting *calm* winds today. ▪ a *calm* sea [=a sea that has no waves or only very small waves]
– **calm·ly** *adv* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ The coach *calmly* told her players what to do next. – **calm·ness** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ I suddenly had a great feeling of *calmness*.

²calm *noun*
1 : a quiet and peaceful state or condition [*noncount*] After two days of violent protests, the mayor appealed/pleaded for *calm*. ▪ The *calm* was broken by another terrorist bombing. ▪ the *calm* of a church ▪ Police tried to ***restore calm*** after the riot. [*singular*] A quiet *calm* settled over the city.
2 [*count*] : a peaceful mental or emotional state — usually singular ▪ The coach was able to keep his *calm* during the game. ▪ Everyone noticed her outward *calm* at the funeral.
the calm before the storm see ¹STORM

³calm *verb* **calms**; **calmed**; **calm·ing**
1 : to become or to cause (someone) to become less upset, emotional, excited, etc. [+ *obj*] The mayor tried to *calm* [=*quiet, settle*] the protesters. ▪ His words were effective in *calming* her fears. — often + *down* ▪ The mayor tried to *calm down* the crowd. [*no obj*] — + *down* ▪ The mayor asked the protesters to *calm down* so he could speak. ▪ He needs to *calm down* enough to tell police about the accident.
2 : to become or to cause (something) to become less active, violent, forceful, etc. [*no obj*] The winds *calmed* overnight. — usually + *down* ▪ The winds *calmed down* overnight. ▪ The dispute over the new factory has finally *calmed down*. [+ *obj*] The medicine helped *calm* her breathing. — often + *down* ▪ We need to *calm* the situation *down* a little.

cal·o·rie /ˈkæləri/ *noun, pl* **-ries** [*count*] : a unit of heat used to indicate the amount of energy that foods will produce in the human body ▪ foods with high/low *calories* ▪ You should try to eat fewer *calories* [=eat less food with high calories] and exercise more. ▪ a low-*calorie* diet ▪ No dessert for me—I'm ***watching/counting my calories***. [=being careful not to eat too much]
– **ca·lo·ric** /kəˈlorɪk/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ *caloric* intake/restriction/values ▪ *caloric* foods [=foods that contain many calories] – **cal·o·rif·ic** /ˌkælәˈrɪfɪk/ *adj, technical* ▪ the *calorific* content of fat

cal·um·ny /ˈkæləmni/ *noun, pl* **-nies** [*count*] *formal* : an untrue statement that is made to damage someone's reputation ▪ They uttered *calumnies* against him.; *also* [*noncount*] : the act of making such statements ▪ He was the target of *calumny* for his unpopular beliefs.

calve /ˈkæv/ *verb* **calves**; **calved**; **calv·ing** [*no obj*] *of a cow* : to give birth to a calf ▪ The cow *calved* in the barn.

calves *plural of* CALF

Cal·vin·ism /ˈkælvəˌnɪzəm/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a Christian set of beliefs that is based on the teachings of John Calvin and that stresses God's power and the moral weakness of human beings

– **Cal•vin•ist** /'kælvənɪst/ *noun, pl* **-ists** [*count*] – **Calvinist** *adj* – **Cal•vin•ist•ic** /ˌkælvə'nɪstɪk/ *adj*

ca•lyp•so /kə'lɪpsoʊ/ *noun, pl* **-sos** [*noncount*] : a lively musical style from the West Indies that usually has humorous lyrics concerning current topics (such as politics); *also* [*count*] : a song of this style

cal•zone /kæl'zoʊn/ *noun, pl* **calzone** *or* **cal•zones** [*count*] *chiefly US* : a food originally from Italy that consists of baked or fried dough folded over and filled with tomato sauce, cheese, etc.

cam /'kæm/ *noun, pl* **cams** [*count*] *technical* : a part of a machine (such as an engine) that changes circular motion into another type of motion (such as forward motion)

ca•ma•ra•de•rie /kɑm'rɑ:dəri, *Brit* ˌkæmə'rɑ:dəri/ *noun* : a feeling of good friendship among the people in a group [*noncount*] There is great *camaraderie* among the teammates. [*singular*] They have developed a real *camaraderie* after working together for so long.

cam•ber /'kæmbɚ/ *noun, pl* **-bers** [*count*] : a slight downward curve from the middle to the sides of a surface (such as a road)

cam•bric /'keɪmbrɪk/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a light, thin, white linen or cotton cloth

cam•cord•er /'kæmˌkoɚdɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a small video camera for personal use

came *past tense of* [1]COME

cam•el /'kæməl/ *noun, pl* **-els** [*count*] : a large animal of Africa and Asia that has a long neck and one or two large humps on its back and that is often used for desert travel

the straw that breaks the camel's back see STRAW



camel

Cam•em•bert /'kæməmˌbeɚ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a type of soft yellow cheese from France

cam•eo /'kæmiˌoʊ/ *noun, pl* **-eos** [*count*]

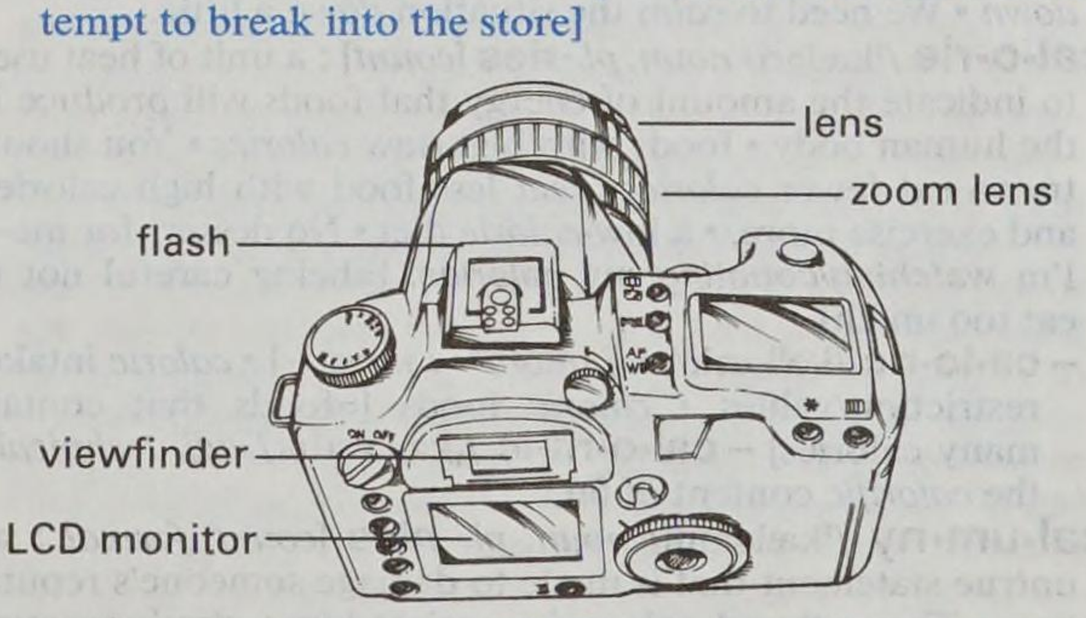
1 : a small role in a movie, play, etc., that is performed by a well-known actor ▪ He has a brief *cameo* in the film. ▪ a *cameo* role

2 : a piece of jewelry that has a carved design shown against a background of a different color — see color picture on page C11

cam•era /'kæmrə/ *noun, pl* **-er•as** [*count*] : a device that is used for taking photographs or for making movies, television programs, etc.

off camera : away from a television or movie camera : not on television or in a movie ▪ He is a different person (when he's) *off camera*.

on camera : within the range of a television or movie camera : on television or in a movie ▪ He looks very relaxed (when he's) *on camera*. ▪ His attempt to break into the store was ***caught on camera***. [=a camera recorded his attempt to break into the store]



camera

cam•era•man /'kæmrəˌmæn/ *noun, pl* **-men** /-mən/ [*count*] : someone (especially a man) who uses a camera to film something (such as a movie or television show)

cam•era•per•son /'kæmrəˌpɚsn̩/ *noun, pl* **-peo•ple** /-ˌpi:pəl/ [*count*] : a cameraman or camerawoman

cam•era•wom•an /'kæmrəˌwʊmən/ *noun, pl* **-wom•en** /-ˌwɪmən/ [*count*] : a woman who uses a camera to film something (such as a movie or television show)

cam•i•sole /'kæməˌsoʊl/ *noun, pl* **-soles** [*count*] : a light piece of clothing for women that is worn on the top part of the body, does not have sleeves, and is often worn alone or under a blouse — see color picture on page C13

camo /'kæmoʊ/ *noun* [*noncount*] *US, informal* : [1]CAMOUFLAGE — often used before another noun ▪ a *camo* jacket ▪ *camo* pants

camomile *variant spelling of* CHAMOMILE

[1]cam•ou•flage /'kæməˌflɑ:ʒ/ *noun*

1 [*noncount*] **a** : a way of hiding something (such as military equipment) by painting it or covering it with leaves or branches to make it harder to see ▪ The army tanks were painted green and brown for *camouflage*. **b** : the green and brown clothing that soldiers and hunters wear to make them harder to see ▪ Troops in full *camouflage*. — often used before another noun ▪ a *camouflage* jacket ▪ *camouflage* pants ▪ *camouflage* gear

2 : something (such as color or shape) that protects an animal from attack by making the animal difficult to see in the area around it [*singular*] The rabbit's white fur acts as a *camouflage* in the snow. [*noncount*] Rabbits use their white fur as *camouflage* in the snow.

3 : behavior that is meant to hide something or convince another of something that is not true [*singular*] Her so-called charity work was a *camouflage* for her own self-interest. [*noncount*] His tough attitude served as *camouflage*.

[2]camouflage *verb* **-flag•es**; **-flaged**; **-flag•ing** [+ *obj*] : to hide (something) by covering it up or making it harder to see ▪ The swimming pool was *camouflaged* [=*hidden*] by a hedge. ▪ The makeup *camouflages* blemishes. ▪ *camouflaged* soldiers/animals ▪ She *camouflaged* [=*hid*] her feelings well. ▪ It was impossible to *camouflage* the facts.

[1]camp /'kæmp/ *noun, pl* **camps**

1 a : a place that is usually far away from cities and that has tents, small houses, etc., that people can live in for a short period of time [*count*] Fishing *camps* are located all along the river. ▪ army *camps* ▪ a refugee *camp* [*noncount*] The soldiers were confined to *camp*. ▪ The hikers decided to ***pitch/make camp*** just before sunset. ▪ They ***set up camp*** for the night. — see also BOOT CAMP, CONCENTRATION CAMP, DEATH CAMP, LABOR CAMP, PRISON CAMP **b** : a town that has been set up so people can live there and work nearby ▪ a logging/mining *camp*

2 a : a place usually in the mountains or by a lake where young people can do different activities during the summer [*noncount*] With the kids away at *camp*, the house is very quiet. ▪ The children have fond memories of ***summer camp***. [*count*] a music *camp* ▪ There are several ***day camps*** [=camps where children spend the day and then return home at the end of the day] in the area. — often used before another noun ▪ a *camp* counselor/director **b** : a place where athletes train before the beginning of a season [*count*] The sports writer visited a few ***training camps***. [*noncount*] Our star pitcher injured his arm in *camp* this spring.

3 [*count*] : a group of people who support or believe in certain ideas ▪ There are two proposals to consider, one from each *camp*. ▪ the Democratic/Republican *camp* ▪ Even within the conservative *camp*, there is quite a wide range of opinion. ▪ We are in the same *camp*. [=we have the same opinions, ideas, etc.]

break camp : to take down the tents and other parts of a camp in order to leave ▪ The soldiers *broke camp* at dawn.

– compare [3]CAMP

[2]camp *verb* **camps**; **camped**; **camp•ing** [*no obj*] : to sleep outdoors usually in a tent ▪ The hikers *camped* by the lake.

camp out [*phrasal verb*] **1** : to sleep outdoors usually in a tent ▪ We *camped out* [=*camped*] under the stars. ▪ Fans *camped out* [=spent the night outside] in huge numbers to purchase tickets in the morning. — see also CAMPOUT **2** *informal* **a** : to live in a place for a short period of time ▪ I *camped out* at a friend's apartment until I found a place of my own. **b** *US* : to stay in a place for a period of time ▪ He *camped out* in the library for the afternoon.

– compare [4]CAMP

[3]camp *noun* [*noncount*] — used of art and entertainment when qualities that are normally considered bad (such as excessive emotion and bad acting) are exaggerated so much that they become interesting and funny ▪ movie-goers who appreciate *camp* — compare [1]CAMP

– **camp** *adj* ▪ We went to see the movie for its *camp* value. ▪ The performance has become a *camp* classic. – **camp•i•ly** /'kæmpəli/ *adv* ▪ The movie was *campily* outrageous.

– **camp•i•ness** /ˈkæmpinəs/ *noun* [*singular*] ▪ the *campiness* of the movie – **campy** /ˈkæmpi/ *adj* **camp•i•er**; **-est** *US* ▪ a *campy* comedy/movie

⁴camp *verb* **camps**; **camped**; **camping**

camp it up *informal* : to act with exaggerated speech or gestures ▪ He really *camped it up* on stage.

– compare ²CAMP

¹cam•paign /kæmˈpeɪn/ *noun, pl* **-paigns** [*count*]

1 : a series of activities designed to produce a particular result ▪ an election *campaign* [=a campaign to win a political election] ▪ a presidential *campaign* ▪ The group launched/mounted/led a *campaign* to protect the area from commercial development. ▪ the *campaign* against drugs ▪ an expensive advertising *campaign* ▪ The university is organizing a *campaign* to attract a more diverse student population. — often used before another noun ▪ *campaign* contributions ▪ She kept/broke her *campaign* promises. ▪ a *campaign* slogan

2 : a series of military battles, attacks, etc., designed to produce a particular result in a war ▪ a bombing *campaign*

²campaign *verb* **-paigns**; **-paigned**; **-paign•ing** [*no obj*] : to lead or take part in a campaign to support or oppose someone or something or to achieve something ▪ She *campaigned* to save the town library. ▪ He *campaigned* hard to get more funding. ▪ a time when women were *campaigning* for the right to vote ▪ I *campaigned* for/against her when she ran for governor. ▪ He ***campaigned for president/governor/mayor***. = He *campaigned* for the presidency/governorship/mayoralty. [=he tried to be elected president/governor/mayor]

– **cam•paign•er** *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] ▪ civil rights *campaigners* – **campaigning** *noun* [*noncount*]

cam•pa•ni•le /ˌkæmpəˈniːli/ *noun, pl* **-les** [*count*] : a tall tower with a bell in it

camp bed *noun, pl* ~ **beds** [*count*] *Brit* : COT 1

camp•er /ˈkæmpɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

1 : a person who sleeps outdoors, in a tent, or in a simple shelter usually for enjoyment for a short period of time ▪ Rangers warned *campers* that leaving food outside might attract bears. ▪ A careless *camper* accidentally started a fire in the woods. — see also HAPPY CAMPER

2 *US* : a type of vehicle or special trailer that people can live and sleep in when they are traveling or camping — called also (*Brit*) *camper van*, (*Brit*) *caravan*

3 : a young person who goes to a camp during the summer to do different activities

camp•fire /ˈkæmpˌfajɚ/ *noun, pl* **-fires** [*count*] : a fire that is built outdoors at a camp or picnic area ▪ We gathered around a *campfire* and shared stories.

Camp Fire girl *noun, pl* ~ **girls** [*count*] *US* : a girl who is a member of a national organization for young people from ages 5 to 18

camp follower *noun, pl* ~ **-ers** [*count*]

1 : a person who spends time with or near a group or person in order to gain some advantage ▪ media *camp followers* ▪ the famous boxer and his *camp followers*

2 : a person who follows a group of soldiers as they move to different areas and sells goods and services to them

camp•ground /ˈkæmpˌgraʊnd/ *noun, pl* **-grounds** [*count*] *chiefly US* : an area or place that is used for camping : a place where people can put up a tent or park a camper and that usually has toilets and showers for campers to use

cam•phor /ˈkæmfɚ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a white substance with a strong smell that is used in medicine and to keep insects away

camping *noun* [*noncount*] : the activity of sleeping outdoors in a tent usually for enjoyment ▪ *Camping* is one of our favorite things to do. ▪ She likes to ***go camping*** on weekends.

– **camping** *adj* ▪ *camping* equipment/gear ▪ a *camping* trip

camp meeting *noun, pl* ~ **-ings** [*count*] *US* : a religious meeting that is held outdoors and is often attended by people who camp nearby

camp•out /ˈkæmpˌaʊt/ *noun, pl* **-outs** [*count*] *US* : an occasion when people go camping together ▪ our annual *campout* in Vermont — see also *camp out* at ²CAMP

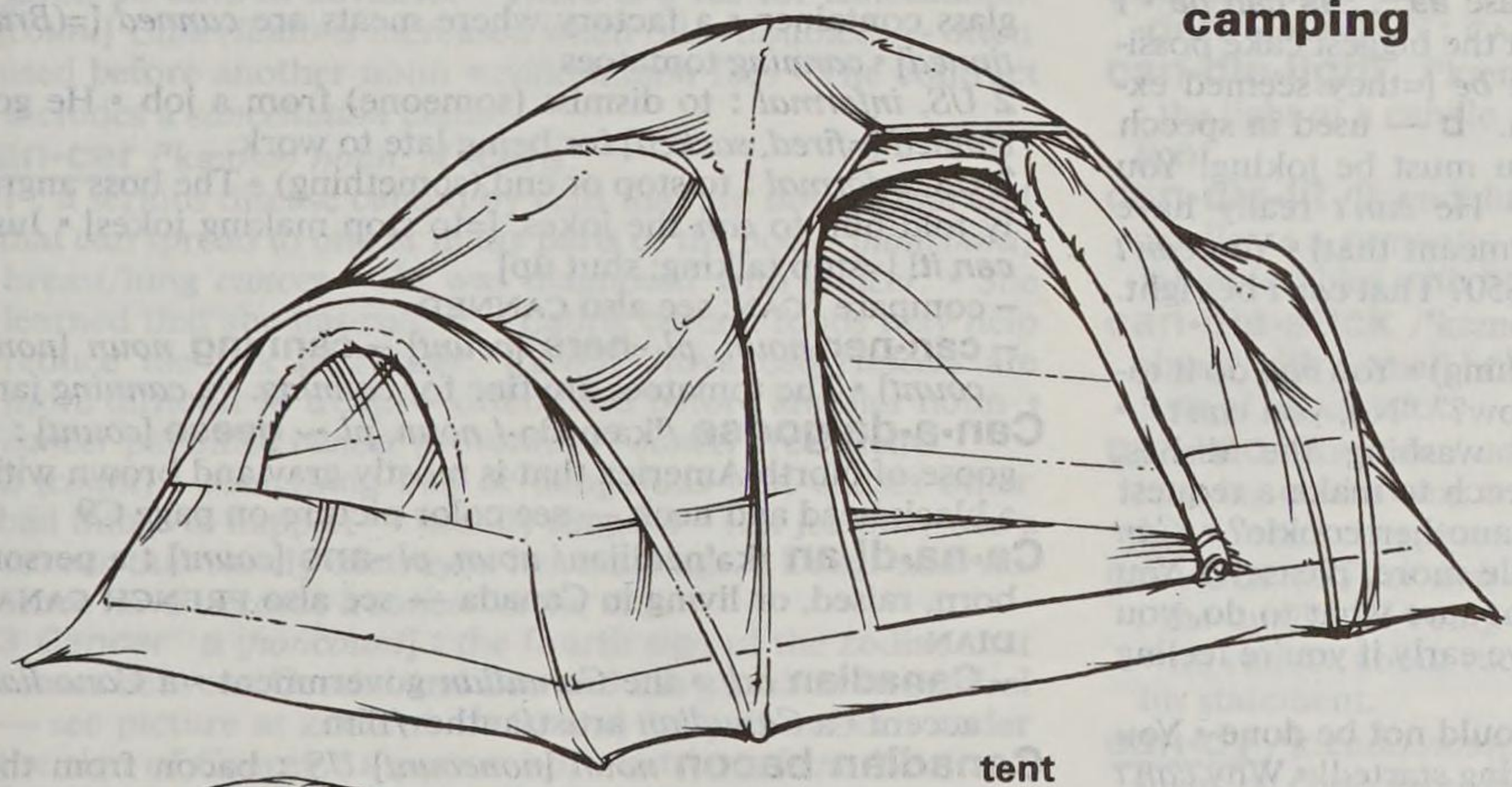
camp•site /ˈkæmpˌsaɪt/ *noun, pl* **-sites** [*count*]

1 *US* : a place where people can put up a tent ▪ The *campsite* includes a picnic table and a grill for cooking.

2 *Brit* : CAMPGROUND

cam•pus /ˈkæmpəs/ *noun, pl* **-pus•es** : the area and buildings around a university, college, school, etc. [*count*] Visitors crowded the *campus* on graduation day. ▪ Rallies were held on college/university *campuses* across the country. ▪ We

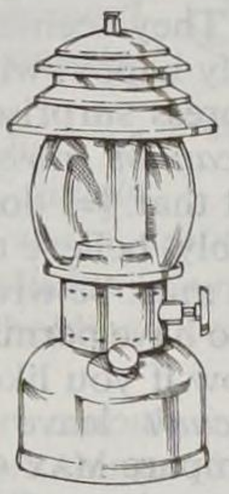
camping



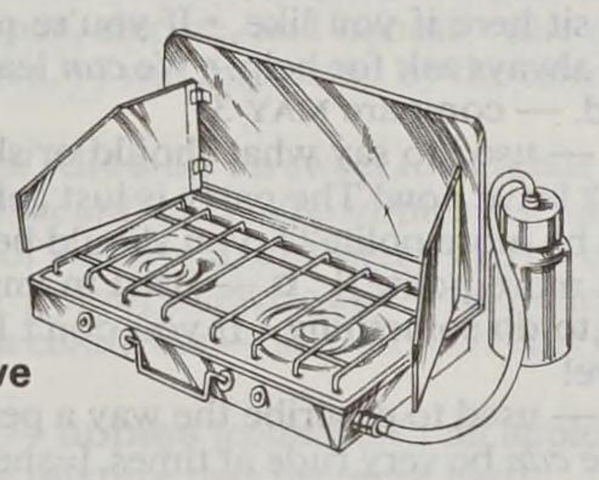
tent



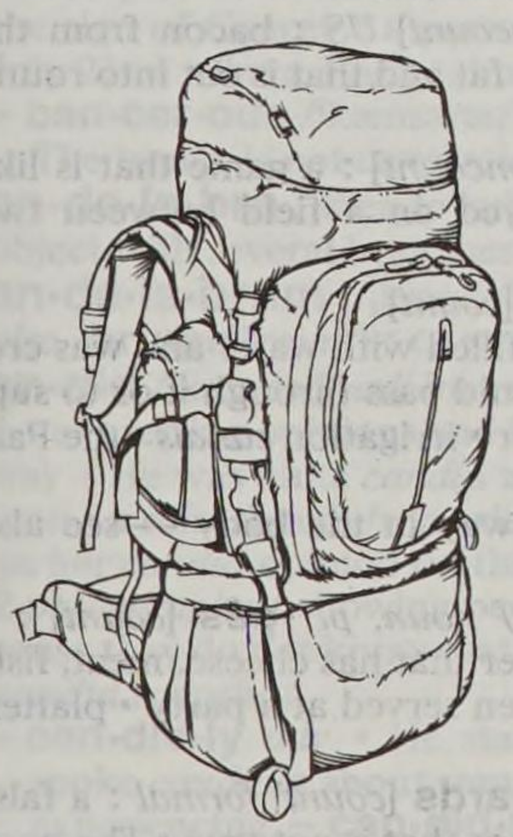
canteen



lantern



camp stove



backpack (*chiefly US*),
rucksack (*chiefly Brit*)



backpack (*chiefly US*),
daypack (*US*),
rucksack (*chiefly Brit*)

sleeping bag



air mattress, air bed

walked around the *campus* on our first day. [*noncount*] How do you like living ***on campus***? [=in the dormitories/housing provided by the school] ▪ She prefers living ***off campus***. [=she prefers not living in the dormitories/housing provided by the school] ▪ (*US, somewhat old-fashioned*) The quarterback of the football team is a real ***big man on campus***. [=he is important and well-known] — often used before another noun ▪ *campus* events/life ▪ *campus* politics

cam•shaft /ˈkæmˌʃæft, *Brit* ˈkæmˌʃɑːft/ *noun, pl* **-shafts** [*count*] *technical* : a metal shaft or bar to which a cam is attached — see picture at ENGINE

[1]can /kən, ˈkæn/ *verb, past tense* **could** /kəd, ˈkʊd/ *present tense for both singular and plural* **can**; *negative* **can•not** /ˈkænɑt, kəˈnɑːt, *Brit* ˈkænət/ *or* **can't** /ˈkænt, *Brit* ˈkɑːnt/ [*modal verb*]

1 : to be able to (do something) ▪ I don't need any help. I *can* do it myself. ▪ I *can't* decide what to do. ▪ All we *can* do [=the only thing we can do] now is wait. : to know how to (do something) ▪ She *can* read, *can't* she? ▪ I *can* whistle. : to have the power or skill to (do something) ▪ A weight lifter *can* lift a very heavy weight. ▪ She *can* play the piano. ▪ Only Congress *can* do that. : to be designed to (do something) ▪ a car that *can* hold five people [=a car that has enough room for five people] ▪ How fast *can* [=*does, will*] the car go? — sometimes used without a following verb ▪ I visit her whenever I *can*. ▪ I don't know if I'll be able to fix the problem, but I'll do what I *can*. ▪ Please help us if you *can*.

2 — used to describe what someone sees, feels, thinks, etc. ▪ "*Can* you see him yet?" "Yes, I *can* see him clearly." ▪ I *can* barely hear you. ▪ *Can* [=*do*] you remember/understand how to do it?

3 a — used to say that something is or is not possible ▪ Do you think he *can* still be alive? [=do you think it is possible that he is still alive?] ▪ I don't think he *can* still be alive. [=I think he must be dead] ▪ These problems *can* be dealt with more easily at the local level. ▪ You *can't* always get what you want in life. ▪ At this time of year many birds *can* be found on the island. [=there are many birds on the island at this time of year] ▪ If you don't tell me what the problem is, I *can't* help you. ▪ You *can't* be very smart [=you aren't very smart] if you believe that! ▪ He was supposed to be here an hour ago. ***Where can he (possibly) be***? [=where is he?] — sometimes used in the emphatic phrase ***as . . . as can be*** ▪ I want a cake *as* big *as can be*! [=I want the biggest cake possible] ▪ They seemed *as* happy *as can be* [=they seemed extremely happy] when I last saw them. **b** — used in speech to express surprise or disbelief ▪ You must be joking! You *can't/cannot* (possibly) be serious! ▪ He *can't* really have meant that. [=I don't believe that he meant that] ▪ You *can't* (possibly) believe that! ▪ The price is $50? That *can't* be right. [=that must be wrong]

4 a : to have permission to (do something) ▪ You *can* do it tomorrow if you like. ▪ "*Can* I leave now?" "No, you *can't*." ▪ You *can't* leave until you finish washing the dishes. — compare MAY 4 **b** — used in speech to make a request or suggestion ▪ Can [=*could*] I have another cookie? ▪ *Can* [=*could*] you open the window a little more, please? ▪ You *can* sit here if you like. ▪ If you're not sure what to do, you *can* always ask for help. ▪ We *can* leave early if you're feeling tired. — compare MAY 3

5 a — used to say what should or should not be done ▪ You *can't* leave now! The party is just getting started! ▪ Why *can't* you be more polite? [=you should be more polite; why aren't you more polite?] **b** — used in angry speech to tell someone to do something ▪ If you don't like it here, you *can* just leave!

6 a — used to describe the way a person sometimes behaves ▪ She *can* be very rude at times. [=she is sometimes very rude] **b** — used to describe something that sometimes or often happens ▪ In this part of the country the weather *can* change quickly. [=the weather often changes quickly]

usage *Could* is used as the past tense of *can* to describe an ability that someone had in the past or to say that something was possible in the past. ▪ I *could* run fast when I was young, but I can't run fast now. ▪ It used to be that you *could* drive for miles here without seeing another person, but now there are houses and people everywhere. To describe a specific occurrence in the past, use *was/were able to* instead of *could*. ▪ By working long hours, *we were able to* finish the project on time. In the future tense, *will be able to* is used. ▪ If you keep practicing, *you'll be able to* play the piano someday. ▪ She believes that someday people *will be able to* vote at home on their computers. *Can* can be used to suggest something that might happen in the future. ▪ If we save enough money, we *can* go to Hawaii for our vacation next year.

no can do *informal + humorous* — used in speech to say that you cannot do something that you have been asked or told to do ▪ "Can you give me a ride to work tomorrow?" "Sorry—*no can do*. My car is in the shop."

– compare [3]CAN

[2]can /ˈkæn/ *noun, pl* **cans** [*count*]



1 a : a closed metal container that is usually shaped like a cylinder and that holds food or drink ▪ Open a *can* [=(*Brit*) *tin*] of beans. ▪ a *can* of tomatoes ▪ a soda/beer *can* **b** : the food or drink that is in a can ▪ He ate the whole *can* of beans.

2 a : a metal or plastic container that has a removable top and that is used for holding liquid, trash, etc. ▪ a *can* of oil = an oil *can* ▪ a garbage *can* ▪ a trash *can* **b** : SPRAY CAN ▪ a *can* of deodorant

can

can of worms : a complicated situation in which doing something to correct a problem leads to many more problems ▪ We thought the project would be simple, but it turned out to be a real *can of worms*. ▪ Our boss is reluctant to change the policy now because she doesn't want to ***open a can of worms***.

carry the can *Brit, informal* : to accept blame or responsibility for something that you did not cause ▪ He made the error, but she was left to *carry the can*. ▪ Taxpayers will *carry the can* for the renovations.

in the can *of a film, recording, etc.* : completed and ready to be released ▪ a movie that is *in the can*

the can *US, informal* **1** : the part of the body that you sit on : BUTTOCKS ▪ If you ask me, what he needs is a good kick in *the can*. **2 a** : a room with a toilet : BATHROOM ▪ He locked himself in *the can* and wouldn't come out. **b** : TOILET ▪ sitting on *the can* **3** : a prison or jail ▪ The cops threw him in *the can*.

– **can•ful** /ˈkænˌfʊl/ *noun, pl* **-fuls** ▪ a *canful* of beans

[3]can /ˈkæn/ *verb* **cans**; **canned**; **can•ning** [+ *obj*]

1 *chiefly US* : to preserve food by putting it in a metal or glass container ▪ a factory where meats are *canned* [=(*Brit*) *tinned*] ▪ *canning* tomatoes

2 *US, informal* : to dismiss (someone) from a job ▪ He got *canned* [=*fired, sacked*] for being late to work.

3 *US, informal* : to stop or end (something) ▪ The boss angrily told him to *can* the jokes. [=to stop making jokes] ▪ Just ***can it***! [=stop talking; shut up]

– compare [1]CAN; see also CANNED

– **can•ner** *noun, pl* **-ners** [*count*] – **canning** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ The tomatoes are fine for *canning*. ▪ a *canning* jar

Can•a•da goose /ˈkænədə-/ *noun, pl* ~ **geese** [*count*] : a goose of North America that is mostly gray and brown with a black head and neck — see color picture on page C9

Ca•na•di•an /kəˈneɪdijən/ *noun, pl* **-ans** [*count*] : a person born, raised, or living in Canada — see also FRENCH CANADIAN

– **Canadian** *adj* ▪ the *Canadian* government ▪ a *Canadian* accent ▪ a *Canadian* artist/author/film

Canadian bacon *noun* [*noncount*] *US* : bacon from the back part of a pig that has little fat and that is cut into round slices

Canadian football *noun* [*noncount*] : a game that is like American football and is played on a field between two teams of 12 players each

ca•nal /kəˈnæl/ *noun, pl* **-nals** [*count*]

1 : a long narrow place that is filled with water and was created by people so that boats could pass through it or to supply fields, crops, etc., with water ▪ irrigation *canals* ▪ the Panama *Canal*

2 *medical* : a tube or passageway in the body — see also BIRTH CANAL, ROOT CANAL

can•a•pé /ˈkænəpi, ˈkænəˌpeɪ/ *noun, pl* **-pés** [*count*] : a small piece of bread or a cracker that has cheese, meat, fish, etc., on top of it and that is often served at a party ▪ platters of *canapés*

ca•nard /kəˈnɑəd/ *noun, pl* **-nards** [*count*] *formal* : a false report or story : a belief or rumor that is not true ▪ The book repeats some of history's oldest *canards*. ▪ the widespread *canard* that every lawyer is dishonest

ca•nary /kə'neri/ *noun, pl* **-nar•ies** [*count*] : a small usually yellow or green tropical bird that is often kept in a cage
like the cat that ate the canary see CAT

ca•nas•ta /kə'næstə/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a type of card game that is played with two decks of cards

can•can /'kæn,kæn/ *noun, pl* **-cans** [*count*] : a woman's dance of French origin that involves kicking the legs while holding up the front of a full skirt

can•cel /'kænsəl/ *verb* **-cels**; *US* **-celed** *or Brit* **-celled**; *US* **-cel•ing** *or Brit* **-cel•ling**
1 : to stop doing or planning to do (something) : to decide that something (such as a game, performance, etc.) will not happen [+ *obj*] The event was *canceled* at the last minute when the speaker didn't show up. ▪ We *canceled* our dinner reservation. ▪ My flight was *canceled* because of the storm. ▪ She *canceled* her appointment with the dentist. [*no obj*] I'm sorry, but I have to *cancel*. Can we meet next week?
2 : to cause (something) to end or no longer produce a certain effect : to stop (something) from being effective or valid [+ *obj*] He *canceled* his insurance policy last month. ▪ We *canceled* our magazine subscription when we moved. ▪ Please *cancel* my order. ▪ The bank *canceled* my credit card. [*no obj*] If you subscribe online, you can *cancel* at any time.
3 [+ *obj*] : to put a mark with a set of ink lines on something (such as a stamp) so that it cannot be used again ▪ a *canceled* stamp
cancel out [*phrasal verb*] ***cancel out (something) or cancel (something) out*** : to reduce the effect of (something) : to be equal to (something) in force or importance but have an opposite effect ▪ The costs *cancel out* the benefits. ▪ The two arguments ***cancel each other out***.

can•cel•la•tion *also US* **can•cel•a•tion** /ˌkænsə'leɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**
1 : a decision to stop doing or planning to do something : the act of canceling something (such as a game, performance, etc.) [*count*] The storm caused delays and flight *cancellations*. [*noncount*] In case of *cancellation*, the game will be played at a later date. [=if the game is canceled, it will be rescheduled for later]
2 : the act of causing something to end or no longer produce a certain effect : a decision to stop something from being effective or valid [*noncount*] Notice of *cancellation* should be given 30 days in advance. ▪ There is a fee for *cancellation*. [*count*] *Cancellations* increased when rates doubled. — often used before another noun ▪ *cancellation* fees ▪ The contract includes a *cancellation* clause.

can•cer /'kænsɚ/ *noun, pl* **-cers**
1 : a serious disease caused by cells that are not normal and that can spread to one or many parts of the body [*noncount*] breast/lung *cancer* ▪ He was diagnosed with *cancer*. ▪ She learned that she has *cancer*. ▪ Eating certain foods may help reduce the risk of *cancer*. [*count*] Advanced *cancers* are more difficult to treat. — often used before another noun ▪ *cancer* patients ▪ *cancer* prevention ▪ *cancer* treatments
2 [*count*] : something bad or dangerous that causes other bad things to happen — usually singular ▪ Her jealousy was a *cancer* that slowly destroyed her marriage. ▪ Drugs and violence have become a *cancer* in the city.
3 ***Cancer*** **a** [*noncount*] : the fourth sign of the zodiac that comes between Gemini and Leo and has a crab as its symbol — see picture at ZODIAC **b** [*count*] : a person born under the sign of Cancer : a person born between June 22nd and July 22nd ▪ I'm a Taurus, but my best friend is a *Cancer*.
– **can•cer•ous** /'kænsərəs/ *adj* ▪ a *cancerous* growth/lump ▪ The tumor is not *cancerous*.

can•de•la•bra /ˌkændə'lɑ:brə/ *noun, pl* **-bras** [*count*] : an object with several branches for holding candles or lights

can•de•la•brum /ˌkændə'lɑ:brəm/ *noun, pl* **-bra** /-brə/ *also* **-brums** [*count*] : CANDELABRA

can•did /'kændəd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : expressing opinions and feelings in an honest and sincere way ▪ He was quite *candid* about his past. ▪ a *candid* confession ▪ a refreshingly/remarkably *candid* interview ▪ She gave us her *candid* opinion on the matter.
2 *photography* : showing people acting in a natural way because they do not know that they are being photographed ▪ a *candid* snapshot
– **can•did•ly** *adv* ▪ He stated his opinion *candidly*. ▪ She spoke *candidly* about some of the difficulties she had been experiencing. – **can•did•ness** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ He responded to the question with surprising *candidness*. [=(more commonly) *candor*]

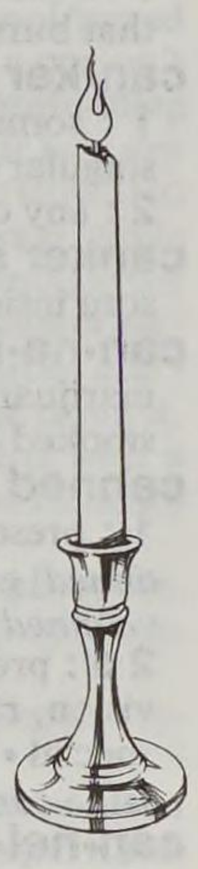
can•di•da•cy /'kændədəsi/ *noun, pl* **-cies** [*count, noncount*] : the position of a person who is trying to be elected : the state of being a candidate ▪ He withdrew his *candidacy* after the scandal damaged his reputation. — often + *for* ▪ She is expected to announce her *candidacy for* president.

can•di•date /'kændəˌdeɪt, 'kændədət/ *noun, pl* **-dates** [*count*]
1 : a person who is trying to be elected ▪ a presidential *candidate* ▪ the leading Democratic/Republican *candidates* — often + *for* ▪ a *candidate for* governor
2 a : a person who is being considered for a job, position, award, etc. ▪ *Candidates* can apply in person or send a resume. — often + *for* ▪ He seemed like an unlikely *candidate for* the job. ▪ Our son is a *candidate for* the Player of the Year award. **b** : a person who meets all the requirements for something — often + *for* ▪ She is a good *candidate for* laser surgery. [=she meets all the conditions to have laser surgery]
3 : a student in the process of meeting final requirements for a degree ▪ a Ph.D. *candidate* in linguistics ▪ The program has several doctoral *candidates*.
4 *Brit* : someone who is taking an exam ▪ Three out of four *candidates* passed the exam.

can•di•da•ture /'kændədəˌʧɚ/ *noun, pl* **-tures** [*count*] *Brit* : CANDIDACY

can•died /'kændid/ *adj, always used before a noun* : cooked in or covered with sugar ▪ *candied* fruit/ginger ▪ *candied* yams

can•dle /'kændl̩/ *noun, pl* **candles** [*count*] : wax that has been formed into a stick or another shape and has a string in the middle that can be burned
burn the candle at both ends see [1]BURN
hold a candle to : to be on the same level as or as good as (something or someone) — used in negative statements ▪ The new movie doesn't *hold a candle to* [=it is not as good as] the original version.
not worth the candle *chiefly Brit, old-fashioned* : not worth the necessary effort, cost, or trouble ▪ The car is so old that replacing the engine is *not worth the candle*. [=the effort isn't worth the cost]


candle

can•dle•hol•der /'kændl̩ˌhoʊldɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ders** [*count*] *US* : CANDLESTICK

can•dle•light /'kændl̩ˌlaɪt/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the light of a candle ▪ We dined/read ***by candlelight***.

can•dle•lit /'kændl̩ˌlɪt/ *adj* : lit with the light of candles ▪ a romantic *candlelit* dinner ▪ *Candlelit* tables [=tables with lit candles] created a warm atmosphere.

can•dle•stick /'kændl̩ˌstɪk/ *noun, pl* **-sticks** [*count*] : an object with a small hole in the middle for holding a candle ▪ a pair of *candlesticks*

can–do /'kæn'du:/ *adj, always used before a noun, informal* : having or showing an ability to do difficult things ▪ I admire her for her energy and *can-do* attitude. ▪ *can-do* spirit

can•dor (*US*) *or Brit* **can•dour** /'kændɚ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the quality of being open, sincere, and honest ▪ She spoke with *candor* about racism. ▪ I was impressed by the *candor* of his statement.

can•dy /'kændi/ *noun, pl* **-dies** *US* : a sweet food made with sugar or chocolate [*noncount*] a box/bowl/piece of *candy* ▪ The children are fond of *candy*. [=(*Brit*) *sweets*] ▪ The cough syrup tastes like *candy*. [*count*] chewy *candies* — often used before another noun ▪ a *candy* bar — see also COTTON CANDY, ROCK CANDY

candy apple *noun, pl* ~ **apples** [*count*] *US* : an apple that is covered with a sugary mixture that becomes hard

candy cane *noun, pl* ~ **canes** [*count*] *US* : a stick of hard red and white candy with a curve at the top

candy floss *noun* [*noncount*] *Brit* : COTTON CANDY

candy–striped *adj* : having a pattern of colored stripes and white stripes that look like the stripes on some sticks of candy ▪ a *candy-striped* shirt

candy strip•er /-'straɪpɚ/ *noun, pl* ~ **-ers** [*count*] *US* : a usually female teenage volunteer who works at a hospital ✧ The word comes from the candy striper's striped uniform, which looks like the stripes on some sticks of candy. Candy stripers are not as common in hospitals today as they once were, and they are less likely to wear the striped uniform.

[1]cane /'keɪn/ *noun, pl* **canes**

1 [*count*] : a short stick that often has a curved handle and is used to help someone to walk ▪ a wooden *cane*
2 ***the cane*** : a form of punishment in which a person is hit with a cane or stick ▪ In the past, some teachers would resort to *the cane* when students misbehaved.
3 [*noncount*] : the hard hollow stem of a plant (such as bamboo or reed) that is used to make furniture and baskets ▪ The chair seat is made of *cane*. ▪ woven strips of *cane*
4 [*count*] : SUGARCANE

[2]cane *verb* **canes**; **caned**; **can·ing** [+ *obj*] : to hit (someone) with a cane or stick as a form of punishment ▪ In the past, some teachers would *cane* students who misbehaved.

cane sugar *noun* [*noncount*] : sugar from sugarcane

[1]ca·nine /ˈkeɪˌnaɪn/ *adj* : of or relating to dogs ▪ *canine* behavior ▪ *canine* loyalty ▪ the police department's ***canine unit*** [=the part of a police department that has dogs that are trained for various purposes] ▪ a ***canine companion*** [=a dog that is kept as a pet]

[2]canine *noun, pl* **-nines** [*count*]
1 *formal* : a dog ▪ poodles and other *canines*
2 : a pointed tooth — called also *canine tooth*

can·is·ter /ˈkænəstɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ters** [*count*]
1 : a container with a lid that is used for keeping dry products ▪ a flour/sugar/tea *canister*
2 : a plastic or metal container that is used for keeping a roll of film ▪ a film *canister*
3 : a metal case that contains gas or chemical substances and that bursts when it is fired from a gun ▪ tear gas *canisters*

can·ker /ˈkæŋkɚ/ *noun, pl* **-kers** [*count*]
1 : something that causes bad things to happen — usually singular ▪ Poverty is the *canker* of this neighborhood.
2 : any of various plant diseases

canker sore *noun, pl* ~ **sores** [*count*] *US* : a small painful sore inside the mouth — called also *mouth ulcer*

can·na·bis /ˈkænəbəs/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a drug (such as marijuana or hashish) that comes from the hemp plant and is smoked illegally

canned /ˈkænd/ *adj*
1 : preserved in a metal or glass container ▪ *canned* [=(*Brit*) *tinned*] goods ▪ *canned* food ▪ *canned* soup ▪ *canned* tomatoes ▪ *canned* tuna ▪ *canned* beans
2 a : prepared or recorded at an earlier time for use in television, radio, etc. ▪ *canned* laughter **b** *US* : not original or special ▪ a *canned* speech ▪ The salesperson kept using the same *canned* phrases.

can·nel·lo·ni /ˌkænəˈloʊni/ *noun* [*noncount*] : tubes of pasta that are filled with meat, fish, cheese, or vegetables and baked in a sauce

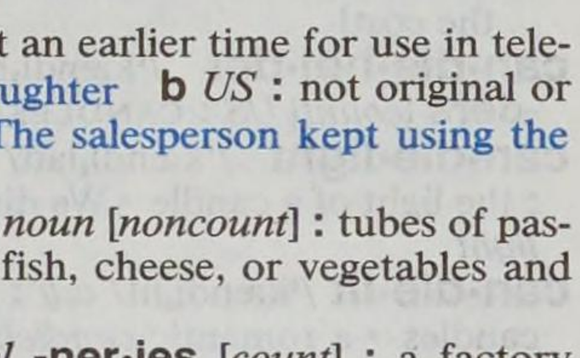
can·nery /ˈkænəri/ *noun, pl* **-ner·ies** [*count*] : a factory where food is put into cans

can·ni·bal /ˈkænəbəl/ *noun, pl* **-bals** [*count*] : a person who eats the flesh of human beings or an animal that eats its own kind
– **can·ni·bal·ism** /ˈkænəbəˌlɪzəm/ *noun* [*noncount*] – **can·ni·bal·is·tic** /ˌkænəbəˈlɪstɪk/ *adj*

can·ni·bal·ize *also Brit* **can·ni·bal·ise** /ˈkænəbəˌlaɪz/ *verb* **-iz·es**; **-ized**; **-iz·ing** [+ *obj*] : to remove parts from a machine, car, etc., to repair or build another one ▪ He *cannibalized* one washing machine to fix another. ▪ Many parts of the engine were *cannibalized* from older cars.

can·no·li /kəˈnoʊli/ *noun, pl* **cannoli** *or* **can·no·lis** [*count*] : a type of pastry filled with sweetened cheese

[1]can·non /ˈkænən/ *noun, pl* **can·nons** *or* **cannon** [*count*]
1 : a large gun that shoots heavy metal or stone balls and that was once a common military weapon — see also CANNON FODDER, LOOSE CANNON
2 : a large automatic gun that is shot from an aircraft


cannon

[2]cannon *verb, always followed by an adverb or preposition* **-nons**; **-noned**; **-non·ing** [*no obj*] *Brit* : to suddenly and forcefully hit or move into or against someone or something ▪ The ball *cannoned* off the goalpost and into the net.

can·non·ade /ˌkænəˈneɪd/ *noun, pl* **-ades** [*count*] : an attack with cannons that continues for a long time ▪ The French directed a *cannonade* at the British for three hours.

can·non·ball /ˈkænənˌbɑːl/ *noun, pl* **-balls** [*count*] : a heavy metal or stone ball that is shot from a cannon

cannon fodder *noun* [*noncount*] : soldiers who are sent into battle even though it is likely that they will die ▪ The poorly trained forces are little more than *cannon fodder*. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ The tabloids have been using her love life as *cannon fodder* for years.

can·not /ˈkænɑt, kəˈnɑːt, *Brit* ˈkænət/ — used as the negative form of *can* ▪ We *cannot* [=*can't*] allow that to happen. ▪ I *cannot* [=*can't*] believe that he would do such a thing.

> ***usage*** In speech, *can't* is much more common than *cannot*. In formal writing, *cannot* is much more common than *can't*.

can·ny /ˈkæni/ *adj* **can·ni·er**; **-est** : very clever and able to make intelligent decisions : SHREWD ▪ a *canny* lawyer ▪ *canny* investors/investments
– **can·ni·ly** /ˈkænəli/ *adv* – **can·ni·ness** /ˈkæninəs/ *noun* [*noncount*]

[1]ca·noe /kəˈnuː/ *noun, pl* **-noes** [*count*] : a long narrow boat that is pointed at both ends and that is moved by a paddle with one blade — see picture at BOAT

[2]canoe *verb* **-noes**; **-noed**; **-noe·ing** : to go or travel in a canoe [*no obj*] He *canoed* down the river to the camp. [+ *obj*] They *canoed* part of the Colorado River this summer.
– **canoeing** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ In the summers we like to swim and ***go canoeing***. – **ca·noe·ist** /kəˈnuːwɪst/ *noun, pl* **-ists** [*count*] ▪ an experienced *canoeist* – **canoer** *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *US* ▪ an experienced *canoer*

ca·no·la oil /kəˈnoʊlə-/ *noun* [*noncount*] *chiefly US + Canada* : a type of oil that is obtained from the seeds of a plant (called the rape plant) and used for cooking

[1]can·on /ˈkænən/ *noun, pl* **-ons** [*count*]
1 *formal* : an accepted rule or guide about how people should behave or about how something should be done ▪ Anyone who violates every *canon* of decency as she has done should be dismissed immediately. ▪ the *canons* of good taste ▪ By the *canons* of science, the experiment was not valid.
2 a : a group of books, poems, plays, etc., that are traditionally considered to be very important ▪ the *canon* of American literature = the American literary *canon* ▪ She argues that the *canon* excludes too many women and minority writers. **b** : the group of books, poems, plays, etc., that a particular author is known to have written ▪ the small *canon* of Alcott novels **c** : a list of books that are considered to be part of a religion's official text ▪ writings that are outside the Jewish *canon*
3 : a piece of music in which the same melody is started at different times by each of the different groups of voices or instruments
– compare [2]CANON

[2]canon *noun, pl* **-ons** [*count*] : a Christian priest who works in a cathedral — compare [1]CANON

ca·non·i·cal /kəˈnɑːnɪkəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : connected with or allowed by the laws of the Christian church ▪ *canonical* procedures
2 a : of or relating to the books that are considered to be part of a religion's official text ▪ *canonical* scriptures ▪ the Jewish *canonical* texts **b** : of or relating to the group of books, plays, poems, etc., that are traditionally considered to be very important ▪ *canonical* literature
– **ca·non·i·cal·ly** /kəˈnɑːnɪkli/ *adv*

can·on·ize *also Brit* **can·on·ise** /ˈkænəˌnaɪz/ *verb* **-iz·es**; **-ized**; **-iz·ing** [+ *obj*] *in the Roman Catholic Church* : to officially give a dead person a special status as someone very holy : to declare (someone) to be a saint ▪ She died 100 years ago and was *canonized* in Rome last year.
– **can·on·i·za·tion** *also Brit* **can·on·i·sa·tion** /ˌkænənəˈzeɪʃən, *Brit* ˌkænəˌnaɪˈzeɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ a saint's *canonization*

canon law *noun* [*noncount*] : the laws of a religion ▪ a marriage valid under Catholic *canon law*

ca·noo·dle /kəˈnuːdl̩/ *verb* **-noo·dles**; **-noo·dled**; **-noo·dling** [*no obj*] *informal + old-fashioned* : to hug and kiss another person in a sexual way ▪ Two lovers were *canoodling* on a park bench.

can opener *noun, pl* ~ **-ers** [*count*] *chiefly US* : a device that is used in the kitchen to open cans of food — see picture at KITCHEN

can·o·py /ˈkænəpi/ *noun, pl* **-pies** [*count*]
1 : a piece of cloth that hangs over a bed, throne, etc., as a decoration or shelter ▪ A *canopy* hung over the altar. ▪ a ***canopy bed*** [=a bed that has a piece of cloth above it like a roof]

2 a : something that hangs or spreads out over an area ▪ A crowd had gathered under the theater *canopy*. [=the part of the theater building that extends over the sidewalk] — sometimes used figuratively ▪ the *canopy* of the sky **b :** the highest layer of branches in a forest or on a tree ▪ the jungle's thick *canopy*

3 : a clear section that covers the part where the pilot sits in some airplanes

– **can•o•pied** /ˈkænəpid/ *adj* ▪ a *canopied* bed/throne ▪ a *canopied* forest

cant /ˈkænt/ *noun* [*noncount*] **:** words that are supposed to sound like serious statements about important issues (such as religion or morality) but that are not honest or sincere ▪ I think the people are sick of hypocrisy and *cant* from their leaders.

²cant *verb* **cants**; **cant•ed**; **cant•ing :** to lean **:** to be positioned at an angle [*no obj*] The legs *cant* slightly to increase the chair's stability. [+ *obj*] — usually used as *(be) canted* ▪ The legs of the chair *are canted* slightly to increase stability. ▪ the chair's slightly *canted* legs

can't /ˈkænt, *Brit* ˈkɑ:nt/ — used as a contraction of *cannot* ▪ I *can't* do it. ***usage*** see CANNOT

can•ta•loupe *also* **can•ta•loup** /ˈkæntəˌloʊp, *Brit* ˈkæntəˌlu:p/ *noun, pl* **-loupes** *also* **-loups** [*count, noncount*] **:** a type of large fruit (called a melon) that has a hard, rough skin and orange flesh — see color picture on page C5

can•tan•ker•ous /kænˈtæŋkərəs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] **:** often angry and annoyed ▪ a *cantankerous* [=*cranky*] old man

can•ta•ta /kənˈtɑ:tə/ *noun, pl* **-tas** [*count*] **:** a piece of music for singers and instruments that usually has several parts (called movements) and often has a religious subject

can•teen /kænˈti:n/ *noun, pl* **-teens** [*count*]

1 : a store in a camp, school, etc., in which food, drinks, and small supplies are sold

2 a *chiefly US* **:** a place where drinks and entertainment are provided for soldiers at a military base or camp **b** *chiefly Brit* **:** a place where food is served in a factory, school, etc. ▪ the school *canteen* [=(*US*) *cafeteria*]

3 : a small container for carrying water or other liquids ▪ a hiker's *canteen* — see picture at CAMPING

4 *Brit* **:** a box for storing knives, forks, spoons, etc.

can•ter /ˈkæntɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ters**

1 [*singular*] **:** the way a horse moves when it is running fairly fast ▪ He set off ***at a canter*** towards the stable.

2 [*count*] **:** a ride or run at a canter — usually singular ▪ a *canter* through the fields — compare ¹GALLOP, ²TROT

²canter *verb* **-ters**; **-tered**; **-ter•ing** [*no obj*]

1 *of a horse* **:** to run fairly fast **:** to run at a canter ▪ The horses *cantered* across the grass.

2 : to ride on a horse that is running fairly fast **:** to ride a horse at a canter ▪ We *cantered* off toward the lake.

can•ti•cle /ˈkæntɪkəl/ *noun, pl* **-ti•cles** [*count*] **:** a song that has words from the Bible and that is used in Christian church services

can•ti•le•ver /ˈkæntəˌli:vɚ/ *noun, pl* **-vers** [*count*] **:** a long piece of wood, metal, etc., that sticks out from a wall or other structure to support something above it (such as a balcony or bridge) ▪ The porch is supported by steel *cantilevers*. ▪ a ***cantilever bridge*** [=a bridge that uses cantilevers to support the main part]

²cantilever *verb* **-vers**; **-vered**; **-ver•ing**

1 [+ *obj*] **:** to support (something) with a cantilever — usually used as *(be) cantilevered* ▪ *cantilevered* beams/floors

2 [*no obj*] *of a structure* **:** to extend out over an area ▪ The balcony *cantilevers* over the terrace below.

can•to /ˈkæntoʊ/ *noun, pl* **can•tos** [*count*] **:** a major section of a long poem ▪ the first *canto* of Dante's "Inferno"

can•ton /ˈkæntn̩/ *noun, pl* **-tons** [*count*] **:** one of the sections into which some countries (such as Switzerland) are divided

can•tor /ˈkæntɚ/ *noun, pl* **-tors** [*count*]

1 : a person who sings and leads people in prayer in a Jewish religious service

2 : a person who leads a group of singers in a church

Ca•nuck /kəˈnʌk/ *noun, pl* **-nucks** [*count*] *informal* **:** a person born, raised, or living in Canada **:** a Canadian

can•vas /ˈkænvəs/ *noun, pl* **-vas•es**

1 : a strong, rough cloth that is used to make bags, tents, sails, etc. [*noncount*] a tent made of *canvas* ▪ a *canvas* chair/bag ▪ *canvas* shoes [*count*] Use a *canvas* to cover the boat.

2 [*count*] **a :** a specially prepared piece of cloth on which a picture can be painted by an artist ▪ a fresh/blank *canvas* **b :** a painting made on a piece of cloth ▪ The museum has several *canvases* by Rubens.

under canvas *chiefly Brit* **:** in a tent ▪ a night *under canvas* [=a night sleeping in a tent]

can•vass /ˈkænvəs/ *verb* **-vass•es**; **-vassed**; **-vass•ing**

1 a [+ *obj*] **:** to ask (the people in an area) what they think about a candidate, project, idea, etc. ▪ A team of volunteers is *canvassing* the city for the Republican Party. ▪ We go to every house to *canvass* voters. **b :** to talk to the people in an area in order to get them to support a candidate, project, idea, etc. [*no obj*] She is *canvassing* for one of the presidential candidates this year. [+ *obj*] The group has been *canvassing* neighborhoods to ask people to vote for him.

2 [+ *obj*] *somewhat formal* **:** to look at or consider (something) carefully ▪ The company *canvassed* several sites for a new factory.

– **can•vass•er** *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] ▪ a paid *canvasser* for a senate candidate

can•yon /ˈkænjən/ *noun, pl* **-yons** [*count*] **:** a deep valley with steep rock sides and often a stream or river flowing through it ▪ the Grand *Canyon*

¹cap /ˈkæp/ *noun, pl* **caps** [*count*]

1 a : a small, soft hat that often has a hard curved part (called a visor) that extends out over your eyes ▪ a Harvard University *cap* [=a cap that has the name or symbol of Harvard University on it] ▪ a knit/knitted *cap* ▪ his wool/tweed *cap* — see also BASEBALL CAP **b :** a covering for a person's head that is worn for a special purpose ▪ a ***shower/bathing cap*** [=a head covering that people wear to keep their hair dry when they are showering/swimming] — see also THINKING CAP **c :** a hat that people with particular jobs wear while working ▪ a painter's *cap* ▪ a surgeon's *cap*, gown, and gloves

2 : a part or object that covers the end or top of something ▪ a bottle *cap* ▪ a lens *cap* ▪ a pill bottle with a childproof *cap* ▪ Put the *cap* back on the marker when you are done using it.

3 : a part that forms the top of something ▪ a bird with a black *cap* [=a black section of feathers on the top of its head] ▪ a ***mushroom cap*** [=the top part of a mushroom]

4 : a limit on the amount of money that can be spent, given, charged, etc., for something ▪ a spending *cap* ▪ a *cap* on political donations ▪ a *cap* on doctor's fees

5 : a paper or metal container that holds an explosive substance ▪ a blasting *cap*

6 *informal* **:** a capital letter — usually plural ▪ e-mails written in all *caps* ▪ She signed the letter with her name in *caps*: KIM.

7 : a hard substance that is shaped to look like a healthy tooth and used to cover a damaged tooth

8 *Brit, sports* **a :** an opportunity to play for your school or country ▪ He won his first *cap* against Columbia when he was 22. **b :** a player chosen to play for a country's team

9 *Brit* **:** DIAPHRAGM 3

a feather in your cap see ¹FEATHER

cap in hand see ¹HAND

if the cap fits *or* ***if the cap fits, wear it*** *Brit* — used to say that something said about a person is true and the person should accept it as true ▪ They may not like being called careless, but *if the cap fits, wear it*. [=(*US*) *if the shoe fits, wear it*]

tip your cap see ¹TIP

²cap *verb* **caps**; **capped**; **cap•ping** [+ *obj*]

1 : to cover the top or end of (something) ▪ a pipe *capped* at one end ▪ a mountain *capped* with snow = a snow-*capped* mountain **:** to put a cap on (something) ▪ Be sure to *cap* the pen/marker when you are done using it.

2 a : to end (something) in usually an exciting or impressive way ▪ The report *caps* a ten-year study of lung cancer among nonsmokers. — often + *off* in U.S. English ▪ The band *capped off* the show with an extended version of their classic hit. ▪ The victory *caps off* the career of a coach who's brought her team to the championships five times. **b :** to follow (something) with something that is better, worse, etc. ▪ a concert *capped* by a fantastic fireworks display ▪ The car was filthy when he returned it to me, and ***to cap it off*** [=*to top it off*], there was almost no fuel left in the tank.

3 a : to prevent (something) from increasing **:** to put an upper limit on (something) ▪ If the teams don't *cap* player salaries, the league won't survive. ▪ *capping* interest rates ▪ The law would *cap* legal immigration. **b** *Brit* **:** to put a limit on the amount of money that can be spent by (a group) ▪ The government wants to *cap* councils that spend too much.

4 : to cover (a tooth) with a hard material that is shaped to

look like a healthy tooth : to put a cap on (a tooth) ▪ He had two of his teeth *capped*.

5 *Brit, sports* : to choose (someone) to play for a national team — usually used as *(be) capped* ▪ He *was* first *capped* for Ireland at age 22.

ca•pa•bil•i•ty /ˌkeɪpəˈbɪləti/ *noun, pl* **-ties** [*count*] : the ability to do something ▪ The device has the *capability* of recording two television channels at once. ▪ That kind of job is beyond my *capability*. [=it is too difficult for me] ▪ The company doesn't have any manufacturing *capability*. [=*capacity*] ▪ The country's military *capability* is unclear. [=the country's ability to fight a war is unclear] ▪ The country does not have ***nuclear capability***. [=does not have nuclear weapons] — often plural ▪ Students are expected to participate in sports according to their *capabilities*. [=*abilities*] ▪ a computer program's search *capabilities* ▪ a cell phone with video game and Internet *capabilities*

ca•pa•ble /ˈkeɪpəbəl/ *adj*

1 : able to do something : having the qualities or abilities that are needed to do something — + *of* ▪ a new train *capable of* (reaching) very high speeds ▪ Many new cell phones are *capable of* connecting to the Internet. ▪ He is not *capable of* making those medical decisions himself. [=he cannot make the decisions by himself because he cannot think clearly, he is too sick, etc.] ▪ I don't believe that she's *capable of* murder. [=that she is the kind of person who could murder someone] ▪ a storm *capable of* (causing) widespread destruction

2 [*more ~; most ~*] : skilled at doing something : able to do something well ▪ She is one of the most *capable* [=*skilled*] and versatile actresses in Hollywood. ▪ a *capable* student ▪ a very *capable* pilot ✧ Something that is in ***capable hands*** is being done or dealt with by someone who has the skill and knowledge to do it well. ▪ I will leave the store in your *capable hands* while I am gone.

– **ca•pa•bly** /ˈkeɪpəbli/ *adv* ▪ He was assisted *capably* by one of the other students.

ca•pa•cious /kəˈpeɪʃəs/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *formal* : able to hold or contain a lot : large in capacity ▪ the museum's *capacious* [=*spacious*] rooms ▪ The van is *capacious* [=*roomy*] enough to hold eight passengers easily.

– **ca•pa•cious•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

ca•pac•i•tor /kəˈpæsətɚ/ *noun, pl* **-tors** [*count*] *technical* : a device that is used to store electrical energy

ca•pac•i•ty /kəˈpæsəti/ *noun, pl* **-ties**

1 a [*count*] : the ability to hold or contain people or things — usually singular ▪ The restaurant has a large seating *capacity*. [=many people can sit in the restaurant; it has many seats] ▪ What is the hard drive's storage *capacity*? **b** : the largest amount or number that can be held or contained [*count*] The nightclub has a 1,000-person *capacity*. ▪ a bottle with a *capacity* of two liters [*noncount*] The prison has reached *capacity*. [=the prison is full] ▪ The auditorium was ***filled to capacity***. [=was completely full]

2 : the ability to do something : a mental, emotional, or physical ability [*noncount*] Some species of birds do not have the *capacity* [=*ability*] to fly. ▪ Does he have the *capacity* to handle this job? ▪ The disease causes a deterioration of breathing *capacity*. [*count*] the machine's computational *capacities* [=*capabilities*] — usually singular ▪ a character with a great *capacity* for love [=a character who is able to love people very deeply]

3 [*count*] : a usually official position or job : ROLE ▪ He was acting in his *capacity* as judge. ▪ She's worked for the company in various *capacities* over the years. [=she has had various jobs at the company] ▪ serving in a supervisory *capacity*

4 [*noncount*] : the amount of something that can be produced or managed by a factory, company, etc. ▪ a plan to double the factory's *capacity* ▪ We can't hire more people because we lack the training *capacity*. ▪ the nation's oil refining *capacity*; *also* : the largest amount that a factory, company, etc., can produce or manage ▪ The factory is currently running at three-quarter *capacity*. [=the factory is producing three quarters of what it can produce] ▪ The airport is not expected to reach *capacity* [=the highest number of planes it can deal with] for several years.

[1]cape /keɪp/ *noun, pl* **capes** [*count*]

1 : a large area of land that sticks out into a sea, bay, etc. — often used in proper names ▪ the *Cape* of Good Hope ▪ *Cape* Cod

2 *US* : a small house that has one or one-and-a-half levels and a steep roof — called also *Cape Cod cottage*

– compare [2]CAPE

[2]cape *noun, pl* **capes** [*count*] : a piece of clothing that does not have sleeves and that fits closely at the neck and hangs over the shoulders, arms, and back : a short cloak ▪ a superhero's mask and *cape* — compare [1]CAPE

– **caped** /keɪpt/ *adj* ▪ a *caped* superhero

[1]ca•per /ˈkeɪpɚ/ *noun, pl* **-pers** [*count*]

1 *informal* : an illegal or improper activity that is usually seen as amusing or not very serious ▪ She has a long record of small-time *capers* [=*crimes*] that include everything from shoplifting to fraud. ▪ a jewelry *caper* [=*theft, heist*]

2 : an amusing movie, story, etc., about tricks or crimes ▪ a crazy *caper* about a bank robbery that goes wrong

3 : a lively jump or dance ▪ He was so happy, he ***cut a caper*** [=did a short dance] on the steps of Town Hall.

– compare [2]CAPER

[2]caper *noun, pl* **-pers** [*count*] : a small flower bud that comes from a kind of bush and that is preserved in vinegar and used to flavor food ▪ a pasta salad made with artichokes, olives and *capers* — compare [1]CAPER

[3]caper *verb* **-pers**; **-pered**; **-per•ing** [*no obj*] : to jump around in a lively way ▪ a young goat *capering* in its pen

cap•il•lary /ˈkæpəleri, *Brit* kəˈpɪləri/ *noun, pl* **-lar•ies** [*count*] : one of the many very small tubes that carry blood within the body : the smallest kind of blood vessel

capita see PER CAPITA

[1]cap•i•tal /ˈkæpətl/ *adj*

1 *of a letter* : in the form A, B, C, etc., rather than a, b, c : UPPERCASE ▪ *capital* letters ▪ a *capital* D ▪ His handwritten *capital* S's look a lot like lowercase/small s's. — sometimes used informally to give emphasis to a description ▪ He is conservative ***with a capital C***! [=he is very conservative] ▪ The sauce is spicy *with a capital S*. [=it is very spicy]

2 : having the main offices of a government ▪ the state's *capital* city

3 *of a crime* : having death as a possible punishment ▪ Homicide that occurs during the course of an attempted kidnapping is a *capital* crime in some states. ▪ *capital* murder/rape charges — see also CAPITAL PUNISHMENT

4 *chiefly Brit, old-fashioned* : EXCELLENT ▪ a *capital* idea

[2]capital *noun, pl* **-tals**

1 [*noncount*] **a** : money, property, etc., that is used to start or operate a business ▪ Does he have the *capital* to start a new business? — see also VENTURE CAPITAL **b** : the money, property, etc., that a person or business owns ▪ *capital* accumulation = the accumulation of *capital* ▪ Like most homeowners, her house is her biggest *capital* asset. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ The governor wasted his political *capital* on an unpopular issue. ▪ She's been accused of trying to ***make capital out of*** the tragedy. [=of trying to use the tragedy to her advantage; of trying to benefit from the tragedy] — see also CAPITAL GAINS, CAPITAL GOODS, WORKING CAPITAL

2 [*count*] : a letter in the form A, B, C, etc. : a capital letter

3 [*count*] **a** : a city in which the main offices of a government are located : a capital city ▪ the state/provincial *capital* ▪ Austin is the *capital* of Texas. ▪ Beijing is China's *capital*. **b** : the most important city for an activity or product ▪ New York City is the media *capital* of the United States. ▪ This town is the region's cultural *capital*.

Do not confuse *capital* with *capitol*.

capital gains *noun* [*plural*] : money that you get by selling property at a higher price than the price that you paid to buy it ▪ Stock sales resulted in millions of dollars in *capital gains* for the company. ▪ the *capital gains* tax

capital goods *noun* [*plural*] *business* : products (such as factory equipment and tools) that are used to make other products — compare CONSUMER GOODS

capital–intensive *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *business* : requiring the payment or investment of a very large amount of money ▪ a *capital-intensive* industry ▪ The airport expansion is a very *capital-intensive* project. — compare LABOR-INTENSIVE

cap•i•tal•ism /ˈkæpətəˌlɪzəm/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a way of organizing an economy so that the things that are used to make and transport products (such as land, oil, factories, ships, etc.) are owned by individual people and companies rather than by the government — compare COMMUNISM, SOCIALISM

[1]cap•i•tal•ist /ˈkæpətəlɪst/ *also* **cap•i•tal•is•tic** /ˌkæpətəˈlɪstɪk/ *adj* : of or relating to capitalism ▪ a *capitalist* society ▪ *capitalist* values ▪ *capitalist* ideology : using capital-

ism as an economic system ▪ the world's *capitalist* nations

[2]capitalist *noun, pl* **-ists** [*count*]
1 : a person who has a lot of money, property, etc., and who uses those things to produce more money ▪ a wealthy *capitalist*
2 : a person who believes that capitalism is the best kind of economic system

cap·i·tal·ize *also Brit* **cap·i·tal·ise** /'kæpətə,laɪz/ *verb* **-iz·es; -ized; -iz·ing** [+ *obj*]
1 a : to use a capital letter to write, print, or type (a letter of the alphabet) ▪ Remember to *capitalize* the *I* in *Internet*. **b :** to begin (a word or name) with a capital letter ▪ *Capitalize* the first word of your sentence. ▪ She rarely *capitalizes* her name when she signs her e-mails.
2 a : to provide the money that is needed to start or develop (a business) ▪ They're seeking investors (in order) to *capitalize* the business. ▪ The venture was *capitalized* with a loan of one million dollars. **b :** to sell (something valuable, such as property or stock) in order to get money : to convert (something) into capital ▪ You can *capitalize* your investment at any time.
capitalize on [*phrasal verb*] ***capitalize on (something)*** **:** to use (something, such as an event or situation) in a way that helps you : to get an advantage from (something) ▪ They were able to *capitalize on* [=*take advantage of*] our mistakes. ▪ She *capitalized on* her new fame by writing a book.
– cap·i·tal·i·za·tion *also Brit* **cap·i·tal·i·sa·tion** /,kæpətələ'zeɪʃən, *Brit* ,kæpətə,laɪ'zeɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ Please check your spelling, punctuation, and *capitalization*. [=use of capital letters]

capital punishment *noun* [*noncount*] **:** punishment by death : the practice of killing people as punishment for serious crimes ▪ an opponent of *capital punishment*

cap·i·tol /'kæpətl/ *noun, pl* **-tols**
1 [*count*] **:** the building in which the people who make the laws of a U.S. state meet ▪ the dome of the state *capitol*
2 *the Capitol* **:** the building in which the U.S. Congress meets in Washington, D.C.

Do not confuse *capitol* with *capital*.

Capitol Hill *noun* [*singular*] **:** the group of people who make the federal laws in the United States : the U.S. Congress ▪ The organization is lobbying *Capital Hill* to increase funding for AIDS research. ✧ The U.S. Congress is called *Capitol Hill* because that is the name of the area in Washington, D.C., where the Capitol building is located. ▪ an apartment near/on *Capitol Hill*

ca·pit·u·late /kə'pɪʧə,leɪt/ *verb* **-lates; -lat·ed; -lat·ing** [*no obj*] *formal*
1 : to stop fighting an enemy or opponent : to admit that an enemy or opponent has won : SURRENDER ▪ The country still refuses to *capitulate* despite its weakening army and dwindling resources.
2 : to stop trying to fight or resist something : to agree to do or accept something that you have been resisting or opposing ▪ The teacher refused to *capitulate*: no calculators were to be used during the exam. — often + *to* ▪ The company *capitulated* [=*gave in*] *to* the labor union to avoid a strike. ▪ Officials eventually *capitulated to* the protesters' demands.
– ca·pit·u·la·tion /kə,pɪʧə'leɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count, noncount*]

ca·pon /'keɪ,pɑːn/ *noun, pl* **-pons** [*count*] **:** a male chicken whose sex organs have been removed

cap·puc·cino /,kæpə'ʧiːnoʊ/ *noun, pl* **-nos :** a drink of strong coffee (called espresso) that has a bubbly layer of hot milk on top [*noncount*] She loves *cappuccino*. [*count*] We stopped for dessert and *cappuccinos*.

ca·price /kə'priːs/ *noun, pl* **-pric·es :** a sudden change [*count*] the *caprices* of the weather; *especially* **:** a sudden change in someone's mood or behavior [*count*] Employees have complained of being at the mercy of the manager's every whim and *caprice*. [*noncount*] policy changes that seem to be motivated by nothing more than *caprice*

ca·pri·cious /kə'prɪʃəs/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *formal*
1 : changing often and quickly ▪ *capricious* weather/winds; *especially* **:** often changing suddenly in mood or behavior ▪ employees who are at the mercy of a *capricious* manager
2 : not logical or reasonable : based on an idea, desire, etc., that is not possible to predict ▪ The court ruled that the punishment was arbitrary and *capricious*.
– ca·pri·cious·ly *adv* ▪ a manager who acts *capriciously*
– ca·pri·cious·ness *noun* [*noncount*]

Cap·ri·corn /'kæprɪ,koən/ *noun, pl* **-corns**
1 [*noncount*] **:** the 10th sign of the zodiac : the sign of the zodiac that comes between Sagittarius and Aquarius and that has a goat as its symbol — see picture at ZODIAC
2 [*count*] **:** a person born under the sign of Capricorn : a person born between December 22 and January 19 ▪ I'm a *Capricorn*. What are you?

ca·pri pants /kə'priː-/ *noun* [*plural*] **:** close-fitting women's pants that end above the ankle — called also *capris*; see color picture on page C14

cap·size /'kæp,saɪz/ *verb* **-siz·es; -sized; -siz·ing** *of a boat* **:** to turn over : to turn so that the bottom is on top [*no obj*] The canoe suddenly *capsized*. [+ *obj*] They were fooling around and accidentally *capsized* the canoe.

cap·stan /'kæpstən/ *noun, pl* **-stans** [*count*] **:** a machine that turns so that rope or a cable can wind around it and move or lift heavy weights (such as a ship's anchor)

[1]cap·sule /'kæpsəl, *Brit* 'kæp,sjuːl/ *noun, pl* **-sules** [*count*]
1 a : a very small container that is filled with medicine and swallowed whole **b :** a small glass or plastic container that has something (such as a liquid) inside of it
2 : a small part of a spacecraft that is separate from the rest of the spacecraft and that is where people live and work
– see also TIME CAPSULE

[2]capsule *adj, always used before a noun* **:** very short ▪ a *capsule* [=*brief*] history of the world ▪ *capsule* biographies

Capt. *abbr* captain

[1]cap·tain /'kæptən/ *noun, pl* **-tains** [*count*]
1 : a person who is in charge of a ship or an airplane ▪ The *captain* has turned off the "fasten seat belt" sign. ▪ *Captain* Ahab
2 : an officer of high rank in some branches of the military ▪ an army/navy *captain*
3 *chiefly US* **:** an officer of high rank in a police or fire department
4 : an athlete who is chosen to be the leader of a team ▪ She was the *captain* of our team. = She was our team *captain*.

[2]captain *verb* **-tains; -tained; -tain·ing** [+ *obj*] **:** to be the captain of (something): such as **a :** to be in charge of (a ship or airplane) ▪ The ship was *captained* by John Smith. **b :** to lead (a team) ▪ She *captained* last year's team.

cap·tain·cy /'kæptənsi/ *noun, pl* **-cies**
1 : the position of being captain of a team [*noncount*] In college sports, *captaincy* is usually given to seniors. [*count*] He was promoted to a *captaincy*.
2 [*count*] **:** the period of time during which someone is a captain — usually singular ▪ Under/during his *captaincy*, the team won nearly every game.

captain of industry *noun, pl* **captains of industry** [*count*] **:** someone who owns or manages a large, successful business or company

cap·tion /'kæpʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count*] **:** a sentence or group of words that is written on or next to a picture to explain what is being shown ▪ The *caption* on the picture says "This year's contest winners."
– caption *verb* **-tions; -tioned; -tion·ing** [+ *obj*] — usually used as *(be) captioned* ▪ The picture *is captioned* "This year's contest winners."

cap·ti·vate /'kæptə,veɪt/ *verb* **-vates; -vat·ed; -vat·ing** [+ *obj*] **:** to attract and hold the attention of (someone) by being interesting, pretty, etc. ▪ The play has been *captivating* audiences for years. — often used as *(be) captivated* ▪ We *were captivated* by her beauty.

captivating *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] **:** attractive and interesting in a way that holds your attention ▪ a *captivating* [=*fascinating*] story ▪ a *captivating* smile

[1]cap·tive /'kæptɪv/ *adj*
1 : captured and kept in a prison, cage, etc. ▪ The *captive* soldiers planned their escape. ▪ *captive* animals ▪ Enemy forces took/held them *captive*. [=took or kept them as prisoners]
2 *always used before a noun* **:** forced to watch or listen to something because you cannot leave ▪ The passengers on the plane were a ***captive audience***. [=the passengers on the plane could not leave and had to listen to what was being said]

[2]captive *noun, pl* **-tives** [*count*] **:** someone who is captured and kept as a prisoner ▪ They set their *captives* free.

cap·tiv·i·ty /kæp'tɪvəti/ *noun* [*noncount*] **:** the state of being kept in a place (such as a prison or a cage) and not being able to leave or be free : the state or condition of being captive ▪ The prisoners were released from *captivity*. ▪ The lions were bred ***in captivity***. [=while living in a zoo]

cap•tor /'kæptə/ *noun, pl* **-tors** [*count*] : someone who has captured a person and is keeping that person as a prisoner ▪ The men fought their *captors* and escaped.

[1]cap•ture /'kæptʃə/ *verb* **-tures**; **-tured**; **-tur•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 a : to take and hold (someone) as a prisoner especially by using force ▪ They were *captured* by enemy soldiers. **b** : to catch (an animal) ▪ using traps to *capture* mice
2 a : to get control of (a place) especially by using force ▪ The city was *captured* by the Romans. **b** : to win or get (something) through effort ▪ She *captured* 60 percent of the vote in the last election. ▪ The company plans on *capturing* a larger segment of the market.
3 : to get and hold (someone's attention, interest, etc.) ▪ The show has *captured* the attention/interest of teenagers. ▪ The story ***captured our imaginations***. [=the story was very interesting and exciting]
4 : to describe or show (someone or something) in a very accurate way by using writing, painting, film, etc. ▪ The story *captures* the essence of the holiday. ▪ The biography *captured* her perfectly. ▪ The beauty of the landscape was *captured* perfectly by the artist.
5 a : to record (something) in a picture, film, etc. ▪ The robbery was *captured* (on film) by the security cameras. **b** : to get and put (information) into a form that can be read or used by a computer ▪ The system is used to *capture* data relating to the buying habits of young people. ▪ a digital camera that *captures* 1.2 million pixels
6 : to take (something, such as a chess piece) by following the rules of a game ▪ In the game of chess, the goal is to *capture* your opponent's king.
capture lightning in a bottle see [1]LIGHTNING

[2]capture *noun* [*noncount*] : the act of capturing someone or something: such as **a** : the act of taking and holding someone as a prisoner or of being taken as a prisoner ▪ They avoided/eluded/escaped *capture*. **b** : the act of getting control of something ▪ the *capture* of the city by enemy forces **c** : the act of putting information in a form that a computer can use or read ▪ data/image *capture*

car /'kɑɚ/ *noun, pl* **cars**
1 : a vehicle that has four wheels and an engine and that is used for carrying passengers on roads [*count*] I'll wait in the *car*. ▪ He got into the *car* and drove away. ▪ She bought a new *car*. ▪ drive/park a *car* [*noncount*] We can go ***by car*** or by bus. [=we can travel in a car or in a bus] — often used before another noun ▪ a *car* manufacturer/dealer/accident/crash — called also (*US*) *automobile*
2 [*count*] *US* : a separate section of a train ▪ a railroad *car* ▪ The train has 20 *cars*. [=(*Brit*) *carriages, coaches*] — see also CABLE CAR, DINING CAR, SLEEPING CAR, TROLLEY CAR

ca•rafe /kə'ræf/ *noun, pl* **-rafes** [*count*] : a glass container that has a wide mouth and that is used to serve drinks (such as water or wine) during a meal; *also* : the amount in a carafe ▪ We drank a *carafe* of wine.

car•a•mel /'kɑɚməl, 'kerəməl/ *noun, pl* **-mels**
1 : a light brown candy made from butter, sugar, and milk or cream [*noncount*] a piece of *caramel* [*count*] a bag of *caramels*
2 [*noncount*] : sugar that is cooked until it is burnt and that is used to give color and flavor to food — see also CRÈME CARAMEL
3 [*noncount*] : a light brown color

car•a•mel•ize *also Brit* **car•a•mel•ise** /'kɑɚmə,laɪz, 'kerəmə,laɪz/ *verb* **-iz•es**; **-ized**; **-iz•ing**
1 : to cook (something, such as a fruit or vegetable) slowly until it becomes brown and sweet [+ *obj*] She *caramelized* the apples. ▪ *caramelized* onions [*no obj*] The onions will take five minutes to *caramelize*.
2 : to change (sugar) into caramel by cooking it [+ *obj*] *Caramelize* two cups of sugar. [*no obj*] Continue stirring until the sugar *caramelizes*.

car•a•pace /'kerə,peɪs/ *noun, pl* **-pac•es** [*count*] *technical* : a hard shell on the back of some animals (such as turtles or crabs)

[1]car•at /'kerət/ *noun, pl* **-ats** [*count*] : a unit for measuring the weight of jewels (such as diamonds) that is equal to 200 milligrams

[2]carat *chiefly Brit spelling of* KARAT

[1]car•a•van /'kerə,væn/ *noun, pl* **-vans** [*count*]
1 a : a group of people or animals traveling together on a long journey especially through the desert **b** : a group of vehicles (such as cars or wagons) traveling together
2 *Brit* : CAMPER 2

[2]caravan *verb* **-vans**; **-vaned** *or* **-vanned**; **-van•ing** *or* **-van•ning** [*no obj*] *US* : to travel from one place to another in a group of vehicles ▪ We *caravaned* to the campsite.

caravanning *noun* [*noncount*] *Brit* : the activity of taking a vacation in a trailer or camper ▪ Camping and *caravanning* are popular in this area.

car•a•way /'kerə,weɪ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the seeds of a plant related to the carrot that are used to flavor foods ▪ *caraway* seeds

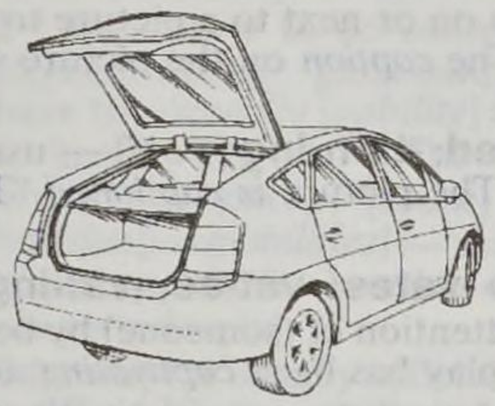
carb /'kɑɚb/ *noun, pl* **carbs** [*count*] *US, informal* : CARBOHYDRATE ▪ a diet low in *carbs* = a low-*carb* diet

car•bine /'kɑɚ,biːn, 'kɑɚ,baɪn/ *noun, pl* **-bines** [*count*] : a short, light rifle

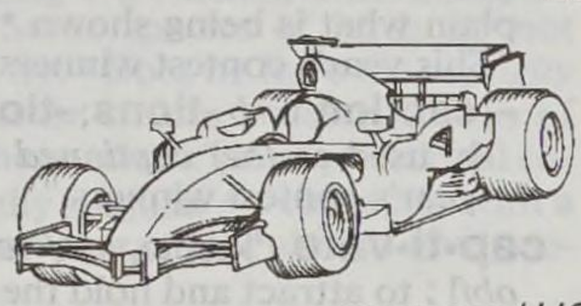
car•bo•hy•drate /,kɑɚboʊ'haɪ,dreɪt/ *noun, pl* **-drates** : any one of various substances found in certain foods (such as bread, rice, and potatoes) that provide your body with heat and energy and are made of carbon, hydrogen, and oxygen [*count*] Pasta has a lot of *carbohydrates*. [=(*US*) *carbs*] ▪ He's trying to lose weight by cutting down on *carbohydrates*. [=foods that contain a lot of carbohydrates] [*noncount*] a food that is low in protein but high in *carbohydrate*

car bomb *noun, pl* ~ **bombs** [*count*] : a bomb that is hid-

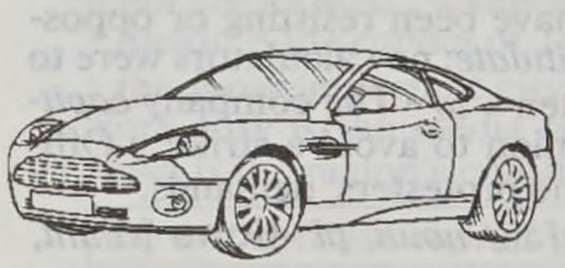
car



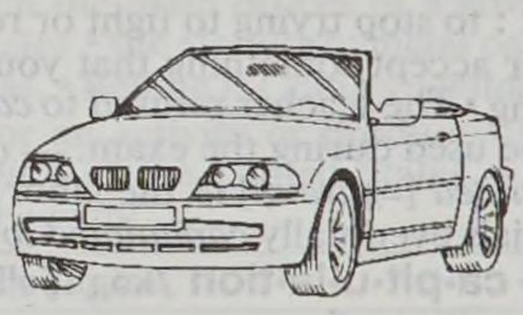
hatchback



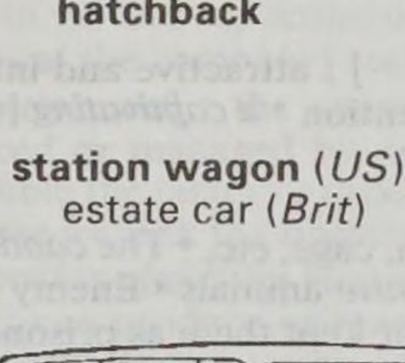
race car (*US*), racing car (*Brit*)



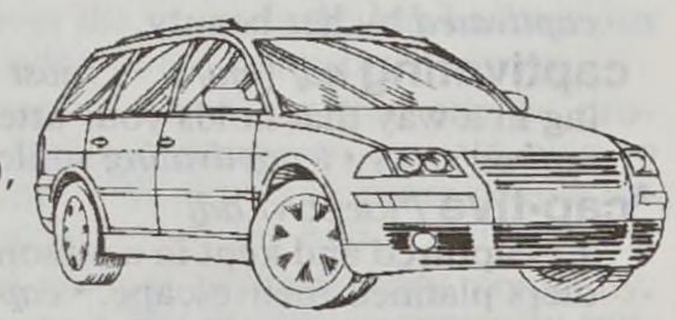
sports car

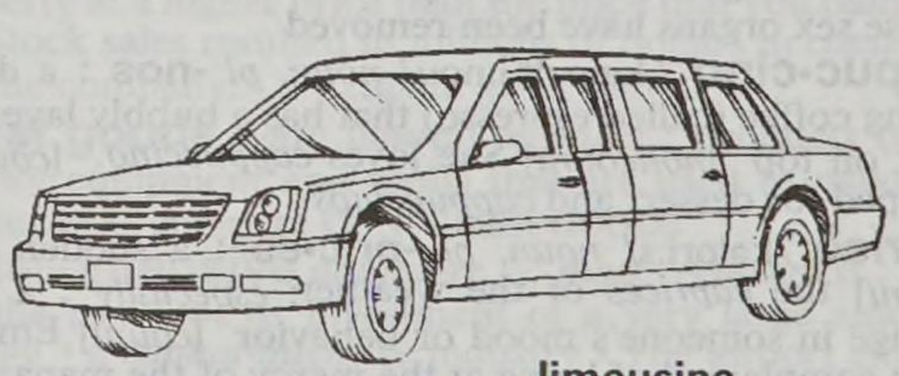


convertible

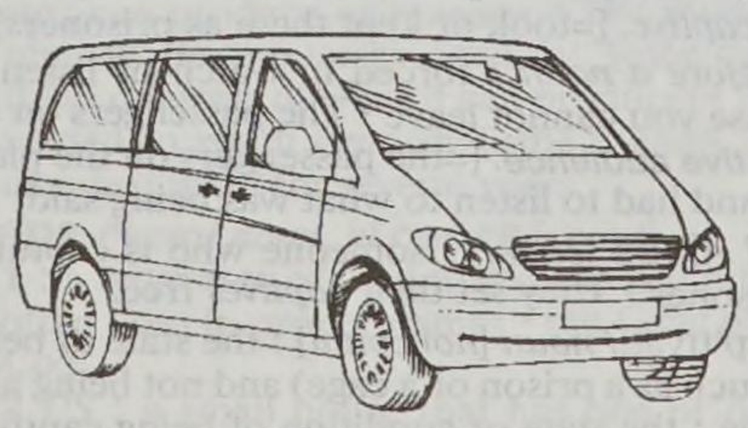


station wagon (*US*), estate car (*Brit*)

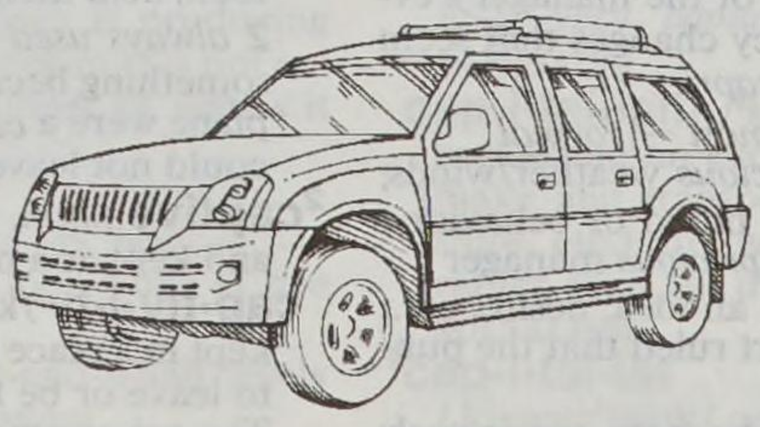




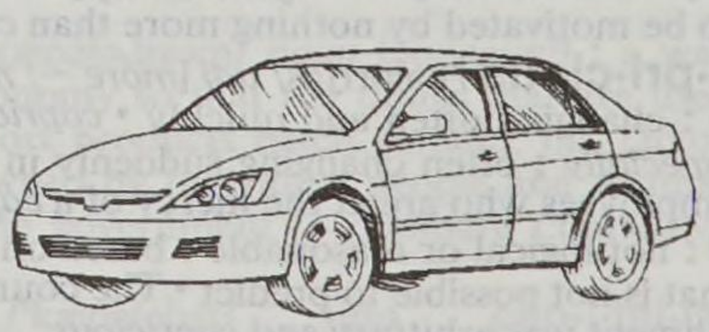
limousine



minivan, people carrier (*Brit*)

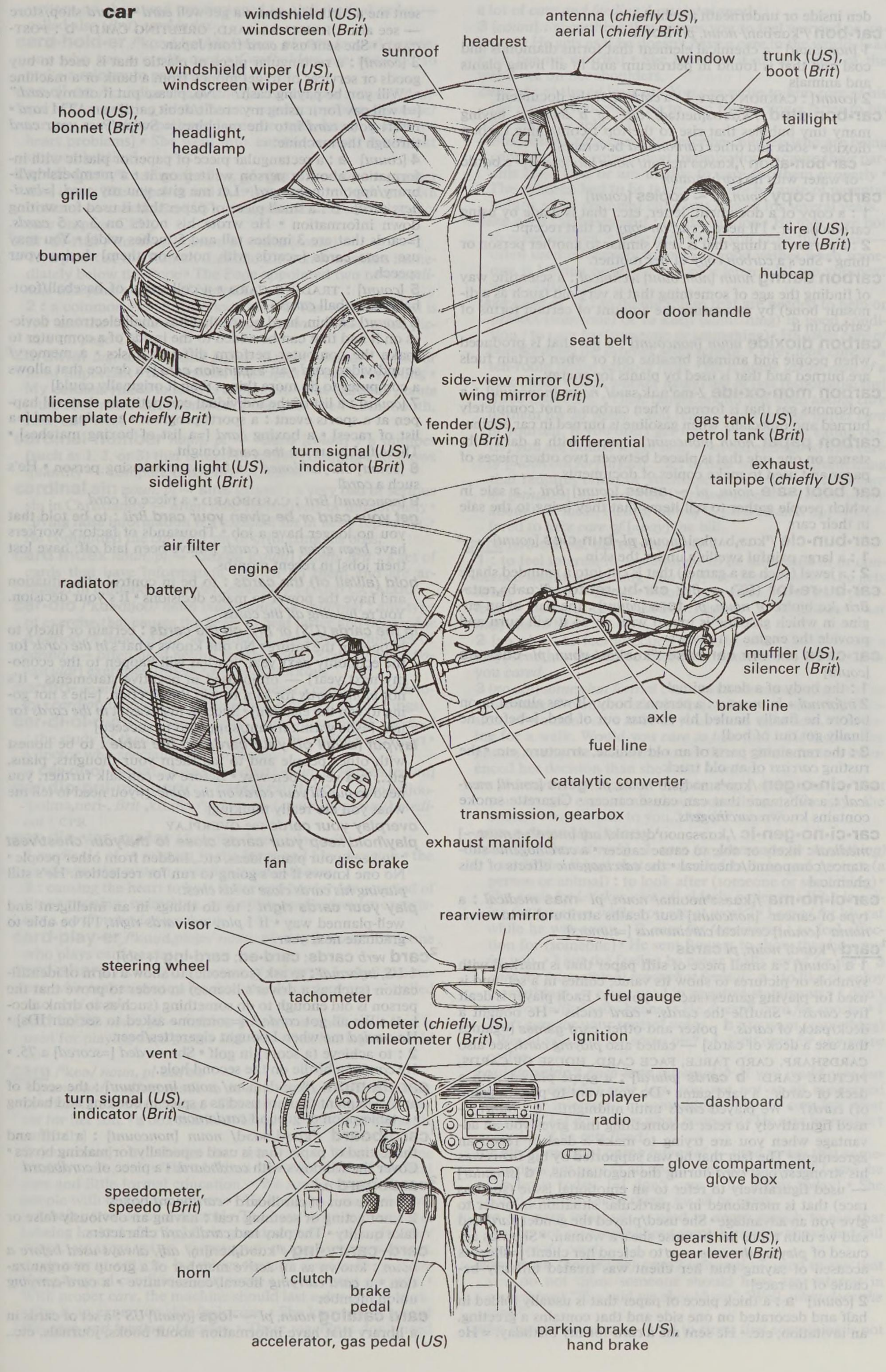


SUV, sport-utility vehicle



sedan (*US*), saloon (*Brit*)

car


windshield (US), windscreen (Brit)
antenna (chiefly US), aerial (chiefly Brit)
sunroof
headrest
window
trunk (US), boot (Brit)
windshield wiper (US), windscreen wiper (Brit)
hood (US), bonnet (Brit)
taillight
headlight, headlamp
grille
tire (US), tyre (Brit)
bumper
hubcap
door
door handle
seat belt
side-view mirror (US), wing mirror (Brit)
license plate (US), number plate (chiefly Brit)
fender (US), wing (Brit)
turn signal (US), indicator (Brit)
parking light (US), sidelight (Brit)
differential
gas tank (US), petrol tank (Brit)
exhaust, tailpipe (chiefly US)
air filter
engine
radiator
battery
muffler (US), silencer (Brit)
brake line
axle
fuel line
catalytic converter
transmission, gearbox
exhaust manifold
fan
disc brake
rearview mirror
visor
steering wheel
tachometer
fuel gauge
odometer (chiefly US), mileometer (Brit)
ignition
vent
CD player
dashboard
radio
turn signal (US), indicator (Brit)
glove compartment, glove box
speedometer, speedo (Brit)
gearshift (US), gear lever (Brit)
horn
clutch
brake pedal
parking brake (US), hand brake
accelerator, gas pedal (US)

den inside or underneath a vehicle

car•bon /ˈkɑəbən/ *noun, pl* **-bons**
1 [*noncount*] : a chemical element that forms diamonds and coal and that is found in petroleum and in all living plants and animals
2 [*count*] : CARBON COPY 1 ▪ a *carbon* of the document

car•bon•ated /ˈkɑəbəˌneɪtəd/ *adj, of a liquid* : having many tiny bubbles that rise to the top : containing carbon dioxide ▪ soda and other *carbonated* beverages
– **car•bon•ation** /ˌkɑəbəˈneɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ a bottle of water with no *carbonation*

carbon copy *noun, pl* ~ **copies** [*count*]
1 : a copy of a document, letter, etc., that is made by using carbon paper ▪ I'll need a *carbon copy* of that receipt.
2 : a person or thing that is very similar to another person or thing ▪ She's a *carbon copy* of her mother.

carbon dating *noun* [*noncount*] *technical* : a scientific way of finding the age of something that is very old (such as a dinosaur bone) by measuring the amount of certain forms of carbon in it

carbon dioxide *noun* [*noncount*] : a gas that is produced when people and animals breathe out or when certain fuels are burned and that is used by plants for energy

carbon mon•ox•ide /-məˈnɑkˌsaɪd/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a poisonous gas that is formed when carbon is not completely burned and especially when gasoline is burned in car engines

carbon paper *noun* [*noncount*] : paper with a dark substance on one side that is placed between two other pieces of paper and used to make copies of documents

car boot sale *noun, pl* ~ **sales** [*count*] *Brit* : a sale in which people gather to sell items that they bring to the sale in their cars

car•bun•cle /ˈkɑəˌbʌŋkəl/ *noun, pl* **-bun•cles** [*count*]
1 : a large painful swelling under the skin
2 : a jewel (such as a garnet) that is cut into a rounded shape

car•bu•re•tor (*US*) *or Brit* **car•bu•ret•tor** /ˈkɑəbəˌreɪtəɚ, *Brit* ˌkɑːbjʊˈrɛtə/ *noun, pl* **-tors** [*count*] : the part of an engine in which gasoline is mixed with air so it will burn and provide the engine with power

car•cass *also Brit* **car•case** /ˈkɑəkəs/ *noun, pl* **-cass•es** [*count*]
1 : the body of a dead animal
2 *informal + humorous* : a person's body ▪ It was almost noon before he finally hauled his *carcass* out of bed. [=before he finally got out of bed]
3 : the remaining parts of an old vehicle, structure, etc. ▪ the rusting *carcass* of an old truck

car•cin•o•gen /kɑəˈsɪnəʤən/ *noun, pl* **-gens** [*count*] *medical* : a substance that can cause cancer ▪ Cigarette smoke contains known *carcinogens*.

car•ci•no•gen•ic /ˌkɑəsənoʊˈʤɛnɪk/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *medical* : likely or able to cause cancer ▪ a *carcinogenic* substance/compound/chemical ▪ the *carcinogenic* effects of this chemical

car•ci•no•ma /ˌkɑəsəˈnoʊmə/ *noun, pl* **-mas** *medical* : a type of cancer [*noncount*] four deaths attributable to *carcinoma* [*count*] cervical *carcinomas* [=*tumors*]

[1]card /ˈkɑəd/ *noun, pl* **cards**
1 a [*count*] : a small piece of stiff paper that is marked with symbols or pictures to show its value, comes in a set, and is used for playing games (such as poker) ▪ Each player is dealt five *cards*. ▪ Shuffle the *cards*. ▪ *card* tricks ▪ He bought a deck/pack of *cards*. ▪ poker and other ***card games*** [=games that use a deck of cards] — called also *playing card*; see also CARDSHARP, CARD TABLE, FACE CARD, HOUSE OF CARDS, PICTURE CARD **b** ***cards*** [*plural*] : a game played with a deck of cards : a card game ▪ Do you want to play (a game of) *cards*? ▪ We played *cards* until midnight. **c** [*count*] — used figuratively to refer to something that gives you an advantage when you are trying to make a deal or reach an agreement ▪ The fact that he was supported by big firms was his strongest/best *card* during the negotiations. **d** [*singular*] — used figuratively to refer to an emotional issue (such as race) that is mentioned in a particular situation in order to give you an advantage ▪ She used/played the gender *card* and said we didn't hire her because she's a woman. ▪ She was accused of ***playing the race card*** to defend her client. [=she was accused of saying that her client was treated unfairly because of his race]
2 [*count*] **a** : a thick piece of paper that is usually folded in half and decorated on one side and that contains a greeting, an invitation, etc. ▪ He sent me a *card* for my birthday. = He sent me a birthday *card*. ▪ a get well *card* ▪ a *card* shop/store — see also CHRISTMAS CARD, GREETING CARD **b** : POSTCARD ▪ She sent us a *card* from Japan.
3 [*count*] : a rectangular piece of plastic that is used to buy goods or services or to get money from a bank or a machine ▪ "Will you be paying cash?" "No, please put it on my *card*." [=I will pay for it using my credit/debit card] ▪ an ATM *card* ▪ Insert your *card* into the machine. = Swipe/Pass your *card* through the machine.
4 [*count*] **a** : a rectangular piece of paper or plastic with information about a person written on it ▪ a membership/library/appointment *card* ▪ Let me give you my *card*. [=*business card*] **b** : a small piece of paper that is used for writing down information ▪ He wrote his notes on 3 x 5 *cards*. [=cards that are 3 inches tall and 5 inches wide] ▪ You may use ***note cards*** [=cards with notes on them] during your speech.
5 [*count*] : TRADING CARD ▪ a collection of baseball/football/basketball *cards*
6 [*count*] : a thin, hard board that has small electronic devices on it and that can be added to the inside of a computer to make the computer perform different tasks ▪ a memory/sound/video *card* ▪ an ***expansion card*** [=a device that allows a computer to do more things than it originally could]
7 [*count*] : a list of the individual competitions that will happen at a sports event : a sports program ▪ a racing *card* [=a list of races] ▪ a boxing *card* [=a list of boxing matches] ▪ Three fights are ***on the card*** tonight.
8 [*count*] *old-fashioned* : a funny or amusing person ▪ He's such a *card*!
9 [*noncount*] *Brit* : CARDBOARD ▪ a piece of *card*

get your card *or* ***be given your card*** *Brit* : to be told that you no longer have a job ▪ Thousands of factory workers have *been given their cards* [=have been laid off; have lost their jobs] in recent months.

hold (all/all of) the cards : to be in control of a situation and have the power to make decisions ▪ It's your decision. You're *holding all the cards*.

in the cards (*US*) *or Brit* ***on the cards*** : certain or likely to happen in the future ▪ No one knows what's *in the cards* for the economy next year. [=what will happen to the economy next year] — often used in negative statements ▪ It's not *in the cards* for him to win the election. [=he's not going to win the election] ▪ Success just wasn't *in the cards* for her. [=she wasn't meant/supposed to succeed]

lay/put (all/all of) your cards on the table : to be honest with other people and to tell them your thoughts, plans, etc., in a very open way ▪ Before we can talk further, you need to *put all your cards on the table*. [=you need to tell me what you are really thinking]

overplay your cards see OVERPLAY

play/hold/keep your cards close to the/your chest/vest : to keep your plans, ideas, etc., hidden from other people ▪ No one knows if he's going to run for reelection. He's still *playing his cards close to his chest*.

play your cards right : to do things in an intelligent and well-planned way ▪ If I *play my cards right*, I'll be able to graduate next year.

[2]card *verb* **cards**; **card•ed**; **card•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 *US, informal* : to ask (someone) to show a form of identification (such as a driver's license) in order to prove that the person is old enough to do something (such as to drink alcohol) ▪ We all got *carded*. [=someone asked to see our IDs] ▪ He *carded* me when I bought cigarettes/beer.
2 : to achieve (a score) in golf ▪ She *carded* [=*scored*] a 75. ▪ He *carded* a birdie on the second hole.

car•da•mom /ˈkɑədəməm/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the seeds of an Asian plant that are used as a spice in cooking and baking ▪ a tablespoon of ground *cardamom*

[1]card•board /ˈkɑədˌboəd/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a stiff and thick kind of paper that is used especially for making boxes ▪ Cover the windows with *cardboard*. ▪ a piece of *cardboard*

[2]cardboard *adj*
1 : made out of cardboard ▪ *cardboard* boxes
2 : not acting or seeming real : having an obviously false or fake quality ▪ The play had *cardboard* characters.

card–car•ry•ing /ˈkɑədˌkerijɪŋ/ *adj, always used before a noun* : known as an active member of a group or organization ▪ a *card-carrying* liberal/conservative ▪ a *card-carrying* union member

card catalog *noun, pl* ~ **-logs** [*count*] *US* : a set of cards in a library that have information about books, journals, etc.,

written on them and are arranged in alphabetical order — called also (*Brit*) *card index*

card•hold•er /ˈkɑɚdˌhoʊldɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : someone who has a credit card ▪ *Cardholders* are required to make a minimum payment each month.

car•di•ac /ˈkɑɚdiˌæk/ *adj, always used before a noun, medical* : of or relating to the heart ▪ *cardiac* problems/disease/surgery ▪ *cardiac* patients [=people with heart disease or heart problems] ▪ She went into ***cardiac arrest*** [=her heart stopped beating]

car•di•gan /ˈkɑɚdɪgən/ *noun, pl* **-gans** [*count*] : a sweater that opens like a jacket and that is fastened in the front with buttons — called also (*US*) *cardigan sweater*; see color picture on page C15

[1]car•di•nal /ˈkɑɚdənəl/ *noun, pl* **-nals** [*count*]
1 : a priest of the Roman Catholic Church who ranks immediately below the Pope ▪ The Pope appointed two new *cardinals* this year. ▪ *Cardinal* Newman
2 : a common North American bird ✧ The male cardinal is red and the female is mostly light brown. — see color picture on page C9

[2]cardinal *adj, always used before a noun, formal* : basic or most important ▪ the *cardinal* principles of news reporting ▪ My ***cardinal rule*** is to always be honest. ▪ The ***cardinal points*** [=the four main directions] on a compass are North, South, East, and West.

cardinal number *noun, pl* ~ **-bers** [*count*] : a number (such as 1, 2, or 3) that is used in simple counting and shows quantity — compare ORDINAL NUMBER

cardinal sin *noun, pl* ~ **sins** [*count*] : a very bad or serious sin in Christianity — often used figuratively or humorously ▪ Giving false information is a *cardinal sin* in news reporting. ▪ He committed the *cardinal sin* of criticizing his boss.

card index *noun, pl* ~ **-dexes** [*count*] *chiefly Brit* : a set of cards that have information written on them and are arranged in alphabetical order; *especially* : CARD CATALOG

car•dio /ˈkɑɚdijoʊ/ *noun* [*noncount*] *US, informal* : any type of exercise that causes the heart to beat faster and harder for a period of time ▪ After weightlifting, she does 40 minutes of *cardio*. — often used before another noun ▪ *cardio* [=*cardiovascular*] exercises/fitness ▪ a *cardio* workout

cardio- *combining form, medical* : heart : cardiac ▪ *cardio*logy ▪ *cardio*pulmonary [=relating to the heart and the lungs]

car•di•ol•o•gy /ˌkɑɚdiˈɑːlədʒi/ *noun* [*noncount*] *medical* : the study of the heart and of diseases that affect the heart ▪ a doctor who specializes in *cardiology*
– **car•di•ol•o•gist** /ˌkɑɚdiˈɑːlədʒɪst/ *noun, pl* **-gists** [*count*]

car•dio•pul•mo•nary resuscitation /ˌkɑɚdijoʊˈpʊlməˌneri-, *Brit* ˌkɑːdiəʊˈpʊlmənri-/ *noun* [*noncount*] *medical* : CPR

car•dio•vas•cu•lar /ˌkɑɚdijoʊˈvæskjəlɚ/ *adj*
1 *medical* : of or relating to the heart and blood vessels ▪ the *cardiovascular* system ▪ *cardiovascular* disease
2 : causing the heart to beat faster and harder for a period of time ▪ running, swimming, and other *cardiovascular* exercises ▪ a *cardiovascular* workout

card•play•er /ˈkɑɚdˌplejɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : someone who plays card games

card•sharp /ˈkɑɚdˌʃɑɚp/ *noun, pl* **-sharps** [*count*] : someone who makes money by cheating at card games — called also *card shark*

card table *noun, pl* ~ **tables** [*count*] : a small table that is used for playing card games and that often has legs that fold up

[1]care /ˈkeɚ/ *noun, pl* **cares**
1 [*noncount*] : effort made to do something correctly, safely, or without causing damage ▪ She used *care* in selecting a doctor for her son. ▪ a box marked "Handle With *Care*" [=handle carefully]
2 [*noncount*] **a** : things that are done to keep someone healthy, safe, etc. ▪ The children have inadequate medical *care* and little formal education. ▪ We need to provide poor people with better dental *care*. ▪ He is ***under a doctor's care*** [=is being treated by a doctor] ▪ The boys were ***in the care of*** [=being looked after by] their grandparents. — see also DAY CARE, HEALTH CARE, INTENSIVE CARE, PRIMARY CARE, *acute care* at ACUTE **b** : things that are done to keep something in good condition ▪ She wrote a book about car *care*. ▪ With proper *care*, the machine should last a decade or more. ▪ She is an expert on skin/hair *care*. ▪ She knows a lot about the ***care and feeding*** of horses. ▪ These machines don't need a lot of *care and feeding*. [=*maintenance*]
3 [*count*] : something that causes you to feel worried or unhappy ▪ He acts as if he doesn't have a *care* in the world. [=as if he has no worries] ▪ She looks as if all the *cares* of the world are on her shoulders.

care of : at the address of ▪ You can write to him *care of* his fan club. [=you can write to him by sending a letter to his fan club] — abbr. *c/o*

in/into care *Brit* — used to describe children who are being cared for by a government organization because their parents have died or are unable to care for them properly ▪ The children had to be taken *into care* because of parental failure. ▪ The youngest child was *in care* for several years.

take care : to be careful : to use caution ▪ He *took care* not to upset anyone. ▪ *Take care* when you cross the street. — often used informally to express good wishes when someone is leaving or at the end of a letter ▪ I'll see you next week. *Take care*!

take care of **1** : to do the things that are needed to help or protect (someone) or to keep (something) in good condition : to care for (someone or something) ▪ He *takes care of* [=*looks after*] his brother after school. ▪ They *took care of* a ten-room house without help. ▪ He is home *taking care of* a sick child. ▪ Each worker *takes care of* [=is responsible for] three machines. ▪ Their family doctor has been *taking care of* them for 20 years. ▪ You really ought to *take* better *care of* yourself. If you don't get some rest and start eating better, you are bound to get sick. ▪ I'm old enough to *take care of* [=*look out for*] myself. **2** : to deal with or do (something that requires effort or attention) ▪ My assistant *takes care of* [=*makes*] all our travel arrangements. ▪ Don't worry about that mess. I'll *take care of* it. [=I'll clean it up] ▪ He offered to *take care of* [=*pay*] the bill.

[2]care *verb* **cares**; **cared**; **car•ing**
1 : to feel interest in something : to be interested in or concerned about something [*no obj*] He doesn't *care* if he gets fired. — often + *about* ▪ I don't *care about* your little problems. ▪ He *cares* deeply *about* religion. [+ *obj*] I *care* what happens to her.
2 [*no obj*] : to feel affection for someone ▪ On Valentine's Day, send her flowers to show that you *care*. ▪ I didn't know you *cared*.
3 [*no obj*] *somewhat formal* : to want *to do* something or *to be* something ▪ I wouldn't *care* [=*like*] *to have* to make that decision. ▪ I wouldn't *care to be* in your shoes right now. ▪ I'm going for a walk. Would you *care to join* me? ▪ He'll show the photos to anyone who *cares to see* them. ▪ More factors influenced her decision than she *cares to admit*.

as if I cared *informal* — used in angry speech to say that you do not care at all about something ▪ "She says she doesn't want to talk to you." "*As if I cared*!"

care a damn see [3]DAMN

care for [*phrasal verb*] **1** ***care for (someone or something)*** : to do the things that are needed to help and protect (a person or animal) : to look after (someone or something) ▪ She *cares for* [=*takes care of*] elderly patients. ▪ Who is *caring for* your son while you are at work? ▪ I *cared for* his cat while he was away. **2** ***care for (someone)*** : to feel affection for (someone) ▪ He sent flowers to show that he *cares for* you. ▪ I got the feeling he never really *cared for* me. **3** ***care for (something)*** *somewhat formal* **a** : to like or enjoy (something) — often used in negative statements ▪ I don't *care for* [=*like*] jelly beans. ▪ He doesn't *care for* sports. ▪ I don't *care for* your tone of voice. **b** : to want (something) ▪ Would you *care for* some pie? ▪ I don't *care for* any more coffee.

could/couldn't care less *informal* ✧ If you *could care less* (*US*) or *couldn't care less*, you are not at all concerned about or interested in something. ▪ I *could care less* what happens. [=I don't care what happens] ▪ He says he *couldn't care less* if he gets fired.

for all (someone) cares *informal* — used to say that someone does not care at all about something ▪ *For all I care*, he can leave today. [=I don't care if he leaves today] ▪ She could quit the whole thing, *for all he cares*.

see if I care *informal* — used in angry speech to say that you do not care at all about something ▪ Go ahead and call her. *See if I care*!

what does (someone) care? *informal* — used to say that you do not think someone should have any interest in something ▪ "She said we should go." "Well, *what does she care*?"

who cares? *informal* — used to stress that something is not

important. ▪ He can't carry a tune, but *who cares*? He's having fun and that's what matters. ▪ *Who cares* what she says? [=what she says is not important]

ca•reen /kə'ri:n/ *verb* **-reens**; **-reened**; **-reen•ing** [*no obj*] *US* : to go forward quickly without control ▪ The car *careened* [=*careered*] down the hill.

[1]ca•reer /kə'riə/ *noun, pl* **-reers** [*count*]

1 : a job or profession that someone does for a long time ▪ I want to make teaching my *career*. = I want to have a *career* as a teacher. [=I want to be a teacher] ▪ She hopes to pursue a *career* in medicine. — often used before another noun ▪ He was a *career* diplomat/soldier. [=he was a diplomat/soldier for all or most of his working life]

2 : a period of time spent in a job or profession ▪ My *career* as a waitress lasted one day. ▪ During his long *career* in advertising he won numerous awards and honors.

[2]career *verb* **-reers**; **-reered**; **-reer•ing** [*no obj*] : CAREEN

ca•reer•ism /kə'riəˌɪzəm/ *noun* [*noncount*] *disapproving* : an attitude or way of behaving that involves trying to do whatever you can to make more money or get promoted at your job ▪ She was appalled by his *careerism*.

– **ca•reer•ist** /kə'rirɪst/ *noun, pl* **-ists** [*count*] ▪ a ruthless *careerist*

care•free /'keəˌfri:/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : having no worries or problems : free from care ▪ She has a *carefree* attitude toward life. ▪ They spent a *carefree* day at the lake.

care•ful /'keəfəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : using care ▪ He is a *careful* driver. ▪ You can never be too *careful* about these things. ▪ *Be careful*! The stove is hot! ▪ They are very *careful* with their money. [=they only spend what they can afford] ▪ She was *careful* of their feelings. ▪ The police were *careful* to leave the room exactly as they found it. — see also *(be) careful what you wish for* at [1]WISH

2 *always used before a noun* : made, done, or said with care ▪ Police made a *careful* examination of the scene. ▪ We kept *careful* [=*meticulous*] records of the project. ▪ They produced a *careful* study of the building.

– **care•ful•ly** *adv* ▪ He opened the door *carefully*. ▪ She *carefully* picked up the vase. ▪ Drive *carefully*. – **care•ful•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

care•giv•er /'keəˌgɪvə/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *US* : a person who gives help and protection to someone (such as a child, an old person, or someone who is sick) ▪ When she got sick her husband became her primary *caregiver*. — called also (*Brit*) *carer*

care•less /'keələs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : not using care : not careful ▪ He is a *careless* worker. ▪ She was *careless* with my things.

2 : done, made, or said without enough thought or attention ▪ It was a *careless* mistake. ▪ I made a *careless* [=*rude, thoughtless*] remark. ▪ a newspaper known for *careless* reporting

– **care•less•ly** *adv* ▪ She *carelessly* left the stove on. – **care•less•ness** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ The mistake was the result of *carelessness*.

care package *noun, pl* ~ **-ages** [*count*] *US* : a package of useful or enjoyable items (such as candy or baked goods) that is sent or given as a gift to someone who is away from home

car•er /'kerə/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *Brit* : CAREGIVER

[1]ca•ress /kə'rɛs/ *noun, pl* **-ress•es** [*count*] : a gentle or loving touch ▪ She gave the baby's cheek a gentle *caress*.

[2]caress *verb* **-resses**; **-ressed**; **-ress•ing** [+ *obj*] : to touch (someone or something) in a gentle way ▪ She *caressed* the baby's cheek. ▪ A warm breeze *caressed* her face.

[1]care•tak•er /'keəˌteɪkə/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

1 : a person who takes care of buildings or land while the owner is not there ▪ We have a *caretaker* who watches the place for us while we are away.

2 *chiefly US* : a person who gives physical or emotional care to someone (such as a child, an old person, or someone who is sick) ▪ I asked her *caretaker* [=*caregiver*] if there was anything I could do to help.

3 *Brit* : JANITOR

[2]caretaker *adj, always used before a noun* : doing a job for a short time before another is chosen to take the job officially ▪ a *caretaker* [=*interim, temporary*] government ▪ the *caretaker* President

care worker *noun, pl* ~ **-ers** [*count*] *Brit* : a person whose job is to give care to people who are ill, disabled, etc.

care•worn /'keəˌwoən/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : looking sad, tired, or worried ▪ He has a *careworn* face. ▪ He looks tired and *careworn*.

car•fare /'kɑəˌfeə/ *noun, pl* **-fares** [*count*] : the money a person pays to travel by bus, taxi, etc.

car•go /'kɑəgoʊ/ *noun, pl* **-goes** *also* **-gos** : something that is carried from one place to another by boat, airplane, etc. [*count*] The ship was carrying a *cargo* of crude oil. [*noncount*] Workers unloaded *cargo* [=*freight*] quickly on the dock. — often used before another noun ▪ a *cargo* ship/plane ▪ Her new minivan has a lot of *cargo* space.

Ca•rib•be•an /ˌkerə'bi:jən, kə'rɪbijən/ *adj* : of or relating to the Caribbean Sea or its islands or to the people of the islands ▪ the *Caribbean* islands ▪ *Caribbean* food/customs

car•i•bou /'kerəˌbu:/ *noun, pl* **-bou** *or* **-bous** [*count*] : a large type of deer that lives in northern parts of the world ▪ a herd of *caribou* ✧ The word *caribou* is used especially to refer to these animals when they live in North America. The word *reindeer* is used for these animals when they live in other parts of the world. — see picture at DEER

[1]car•i•ca•ture /'kerɪkəˌʧʊə/ *noun, pl* **-tures** [*count*]

1 : a drawing that makes someone look funny or foolish because some part of the person's appearance is exaggerated ▪ An artist was doing *caricatures* in the park.

2 : someone or something that is very exaggerated in a funny or foolish way ▪ His performance in the film was a *caricature of* a hard-boiled detective. ▪ The interview made her into a *caricature of* a struggling artist.

– **car•i•ca•tur•ist** /'kerɪkəˌʧʊərɪst/ *noun, pl* **-ists** [*count*] ▪ an artist who's a talented *caricaturist*

[2]caricature *verb* **-tures**; **-tured**; **-tur•ing** [+ *obj*] : to do a caricature of (someone or something) : to draw or describe (someone or something) in a funny or exaggerated way ▪ The press *caricatured* him as clumsy and forgetful.

car•ies /'keriz/ *noun* [*noncount*] *technical* : tooth decay

caring *adj*

1 [*more* ~; *less* ~] : feeling or showing concern for other people ▪ a *caring* parent/child/teacher ▪ a *caring* gesture

2 *always used before a noun, Brit* : of or relating to work that involves helping people ▪ the *caring* professions

car•jack•ing /'kɑəˌʤækɪŋ/ *noun, pl* **-ings** [*count*] : the crime of using violence or threats to steal a car from its driver or to force the driver to take you someplace ▪ The police are investigating another *carjacking*.

– **car•jack** /'kɑəˌʤæk/ *verb* **-jacks**; **-jacked**; **-jacking** [+ *obj*] ▪ She claimed to have been *carjacked*. – **car•jack•er** /'kɑəˌʤækə/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] ▪ Police apprehended the *carjackers*.

car•load /'kɑəˌloʊd/ *noun, pl* **-loads** [*count*] : the amount of people or things that will fit in a car : a car full of people or things ▪ She brought home a *carload of* books. ▪ People were arriving ***by the carload***.

car•mak•er /'kɑəˌmeɪkə/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a company that makes and sells cars ▪ American *carmakers* [=(*US*) *automakers*] face stiff competition from Japan.

car•nage /'kɑənɪʤ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the killing of many people ▪ Years of violence and *carnage* [=*bloodshed*] have left the country in ruins. ▪ Reporters described the highway accident as a scene of *carnage*.

car•nal /'kɑənl/ *adj, formal* : of or relating to the body : sexual or sensual ▪ *carnal* desires/pleasures — often used in the phrase ***carnal knowledge*** to refer to sexual intercourse ▪ *carnal knowledge* of a woman [=sexual intercourse with a woman]

car•na•tion /kɑə'neɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count*] : a pink, white, yellow, or red flower that has a sweet smell ▪ The groom wore a *carnation* in his buttonhole. — see color picture on page C6

car•ni•val /'kɑənəvəl/ *noun, pl* **-vals**

1 *or* ***Carnival*** [*count, noncount*] : a festival held before Lent that includes music and dancing [=*count*] ▪ Will you be in town for (the) *Carnival* this year?

2 [*count*] *US* **a** : a form of entertainment that travels to different places and includes rides and games you can play to win prizes ▪ Are you going to the *carnival* [=(*Brit*) *funfair*] this weekend? **b** : an event where many people gather to celebrate something : FESTIVAL ▪ the school's annual winter *carnival*

3 [*count*] : a time or place that is exciting, lively, colorful, etc. ▪ That part of town is a *carnival* on Friday and Saturday nights. ▪ There is a *carnival* atmosphere in the office. ▪ The garden became a *carnival* of color.

car•ni•vore /'kɑənəˌvoə/ *noun, pl* **-vores** [*count*] : an animal that eats meat : a meat eater — sometimes used humor-

ously to refer to people who eat meat ▪ Many of my friends are vegetarians, but I'm a *carnivore*.
– **car•niv•o•rous** /kɑɚˈnɪvərəs/ *adj* ▪ a *carnivorous* animal

car•ob /ˈkerəb/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the fruit of a Mediterranean tree that can be prepared to taste similar to chocolate and is used in various foods — often used before another noun ▪ *carob* beans/pods ▪ *carob* powder

[1]car•ol /ˈkerəl/ *noun, pl* **-ols** [*count*] : a song sung during the Christmas season ▪ We sang our favorite *carols* while we decorated the tree. — called also *Christmas carol*

[2]carol *verb* **-ols**; *US* **-oled** *or chiefly Brit* **-olled**; *US* **-ol•ing** *or chiefly Brit* **-ol•ling** [*no obj*] : to go from place to place singing Christmas carols ▪ Last night, we went *caroling* with our friends.
– **carol•er** (*US*) *or chiefly Brit* **carol•ler** /ˈkerələɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] ▪ Christmas *carolers* making their rounds

ca•rot•id artery /kəˈrɑ:təd-/ *noun, pl* ~ **-teries** [*count*] *medical* : either one of the two arteries in the neck that supply blood to the head

ca•rouse /kəˈraʊz/ *verb* **-rous•es**; **-roused**; **-rous•ing** [*no obj*] : to drink alcohol, make noise, and have fun with other people ▪ My brother and his friends went out *carousing* last night.

car•ou•sel *also* **car•rou•sel** /ˌkerəˈsɛl/ *noun, pl* **-sels** [*count*]
1 : MERRY-GO-ROUND 1 ▪ He loves to ride on the *carousel* at the park.
2 : a machine or device with a moving belt or part that carries things around in a circle ▪ the luggage *carousel* at the airport ▪ a dessert *carousel* ▪ a CD player with a six-disk *carousel*

[1]carp /ˈkɑɚp/ *verb* **carps**; **carped**; **carp•ing** [*no obj*] : to complain in an annoying way ▪ He's always *carping* about his boss. ▪ He's tired of always being *carped* at by his critics.
– **carping** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ I'm tired of all his *carping*.
– **carping** *adj* ▪ *carping* critics

[2]carp *noun, pl* **carp** *or* **carps** [*count*] : a type of large fish that lives in rivers and lakes and is often used for food

car•pal tunnel syndrome /ˈkɑɚpəl-/ *noun* [*singular*] *medical* : a condition that causes pain and weakness in the wrist, hand, and fingers

car park *noun, pl* ~ **parks** [*count*] *Brit*
1 : PARKING LOT
2 : PARKING GARAGE

car•pen•ter /ˈkɑɚpəntɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ters** [*count*] : a person whose job is to make or fix wooden objects or wooden parts of buildings

car•pen•try /ˈkɑɚpəntri/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the skill or work of making or fixing wooden objects or wooden parts of buildings : the skill of a carpenter or the work done by a carpenter ▪ He learned *carpentry* from his father. ▪ When the *carpentry* is finished, the cabinets will be installed. — see picture on next page

[1]car•pet /ˈkɑɚpət/ *noun, pl* **-pets**
1 : a heavy fabric cover for a floor [*count*] We bought a new *carpet* for the bedroom. [*noncount*] Which brand of *carpet* did you choose? — compare RUG; see also MAGIC CARPET
2 [*count*] : a thick covering : a thick layer of something ▪ The ground was covered by a *carpet* of leaves/snow/grass.
call (someone) on the carpet *US, informal* : to criticize someone for doing something wrong ▪ He was/got *called on the carpet* for missing the deadline.
sweep (something) under the carpet see [1]SWEEP

[2]carpet *verb* **-pets**; **-pet•ed**; **-pet•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to put a carpet on the floor of a room ▪ We decided to *carpet* the bedroom. ▪ *carpet* the floor
2 : to cover (something) with a thick layer ▪ Leaves *carpeted* the lawn. = The lawn was *carpeted* with leaves.
3 *Brit, informal* : to criticize (someone) for doing something wrong — often used as *(be) carpeted* ▪ He *was carpeted* for missing the deadline.
– **carpeted** *adj* ▪ a *carpeted* room

car•pet•bag•ger /ˈkɑɚpətˌbægɚ/ *noun, pl* **-gers** [*count*] *disapproving*
1 : a person from the northern United States who went to the South after the American Civil War to make money
2 : a political candidate who runs for office in a place where he or she has lived only for a short time

carpet–bomb *verb* **-bombs**; **-bombed**; **-bomb•ing** [+ *obj*] : to drop many bombs in order to cause great destruction over (an area) ▪ a city that was *carpet-bombed* during World War II — often used figuratively ▪ Television viewers are being *carpet-bombed* with political advertisements as election day approaches.
– **carpet–bombing** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ a city destroyed by *carpet-bombing*

car•pet•ing /ˈkɑɚpətɪŋ/ *noun, pl* **-ings**
1 [*noncount*] : carpets or the material used for carpets ▪ The house has ***wall-to-wall carpeting*** in the bedrooms.
2 [*count*] *Brit, informal* : an act of criticizing someone for doing something wrong ▪ The boss gave him a good *carpeting* [=*scolding*] for missing the deadline.

carpet slipper *noun, pl* ~ **-pers** [*count*] *Brit, old-fashioned* : SLIPPER

carpet sweeper *noun, pl* ~ **-ers** [*count*] : a device with a long handle and a rolling brush that is used for cleaning carpets

car pool *noun, pl* ~ **pools** [*count*] : a group of people who regularly share a car when they are going to and from their jobs or who take turns driving each other other's children to school, activities, etc.
– **car•pool** /ˈkɑɚˌpu:l/ *verb* **-pools**; **-pooled**; **-pool•ing** [*no obj*] ▪ She *carpools* to work every day with her neighbor. – **car•pool•er** *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

car•port /ˈkɑɚˌpoɚt/ *noun, pl* **-ports** [*count*] : a shelter for a car that has open sides and that is usually attached to the side of a building — compare [1]GARAGE

car•riage /ˈkerɪʤ/ *noun, pl* **-riag•es**
1 : a large vehicle with four wheels that is pulled by a horse and that carries people [*count*] They rode to the city in *carriages*. [*noncount*] They rode ***by carriage***. — called also *coach*
2 [*count*] : a wheeled structure that is used to carry and move something heavy (such as a large gun) ▪ an artillery *carriage*
3 [*count*] *US* : BABY CARRIAGE ▪ I took the baby to the park in the *carriage*.
4 [*count*] *Brit* : a separate section of a train ▪ a passenger *carriage* [=*(US) car, (Brit) coach*]
5 [*count*] : a moving part of a machine that supports or carries some other movable object or part ▪ a typewriter *carriage*
6 [*noncount*] *somewhat old-fashioned* : the way in which a person's body is positioned when the person is moving, standing, etc. ▪ a dancer noted for her elegant *carriage* [=*posture*]
7 [*noncount*] *Brit* : the process or cost of carrying or transporting goods ▪ the *carriage* of goods ▪ payment of *carriage* charges

car•ri•er /ˈkerijɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]
1 : someone or something that carries something: such as **a** : MAIL CARRIER **b** : a container used to move something from one place to another ▪ I put the pet *carrier* in the car. ▪ The equipment comes with its own *carrier*. [=*carrying case*] **c** : AIRCRAFT CARRIER — see also PEOPLE CARRIER, PERSONNEL CARRIER
2 : a company that moves people or goods from one place to another ▪ The airline is the nation's largest *carrier*.
3 : a person or animal that can give a disease or a gene to others but is not affected by it ▪ Mosquitoes can be *carriers* of malaria.
4 *US* : a company that provides a specified service (such as insurance or long-distance telephone service) ▪ We switched to a different long-distance *carrier* to save money on our phone bill.
5 *Brit* : CARRIER BAG

carrier bag *noun, pl* ~ **bags** [*count*] *Brit* : a bag that a store gives you to carry any items you have bought there ▪ a plastic *carrier bag* from the supermarket

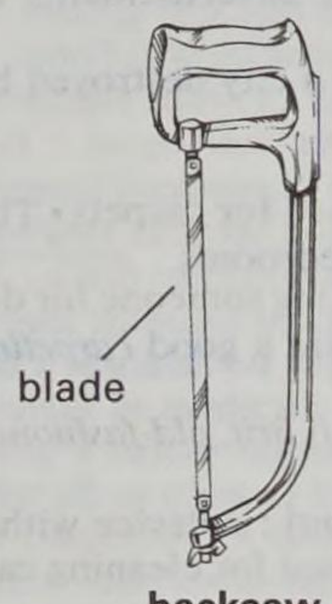
carrier pigeon *noun, pl* ~ **-geons** [*count*] : a type of pigeon that is trained to carry messages

car•ri•on /ˈkerijən/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the flesh of dead animals ▪ Vultures live chiefly on *carrion*.

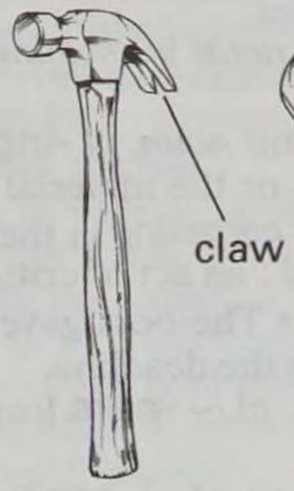
car•rot /ˈkerət/ *noun, pl* **-rots**
1 : the long orange root of a plant that is eaten as a vegetable [*count*] She chopped some *carrots* for the soup. [*noncount*] He added some grated *carrot* to the soup. — see color picture on page C4
2 [*count*] *informal* : something that is offered as a reward or advantage to persuade a person to do something ▪ The company offered a *carrot* in the form of additional vacation time to workers who met their deadlines. ✧ This sense of *carrot* is often contrasted with *stick*, which suggests a punishment for not doing something. ▪ He'll have to choose between the *car-*

C

carpentry



hacksaw



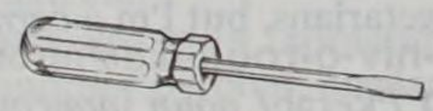
hammer



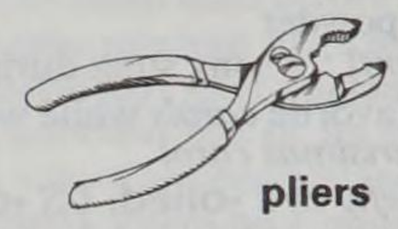
clamp



file



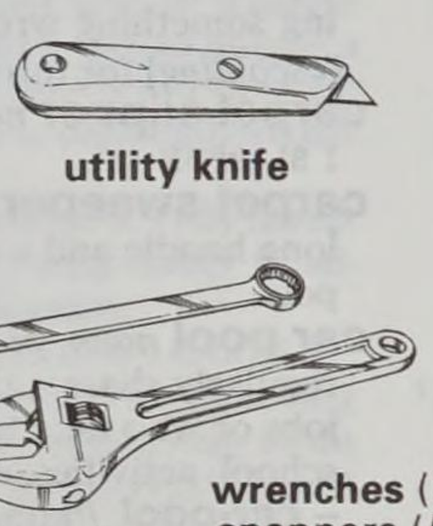
screwdriver



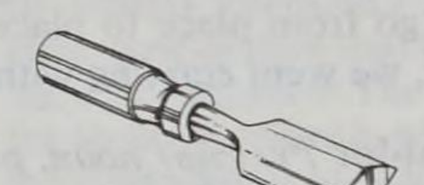
pliers



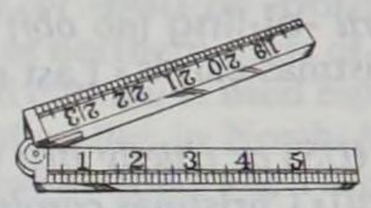
Phillips screwdriver



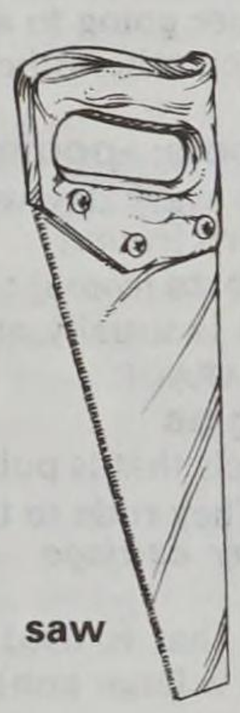
wrenches (*US*),
spanners (*Brit*)



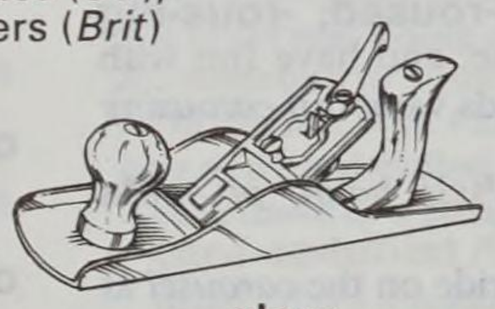
chisel



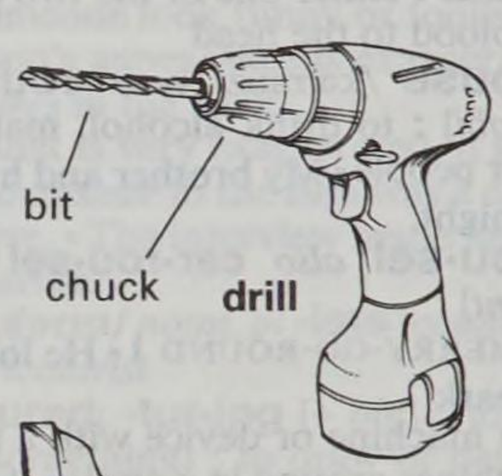
ruler



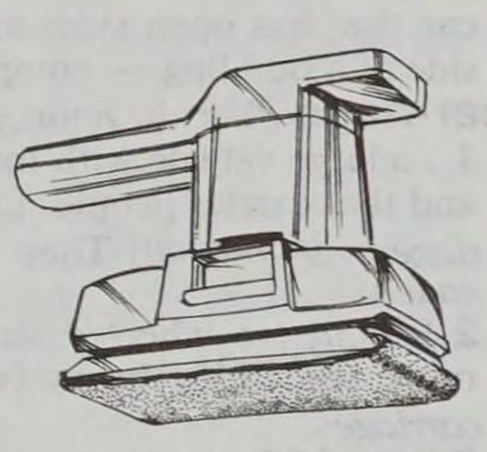
saw



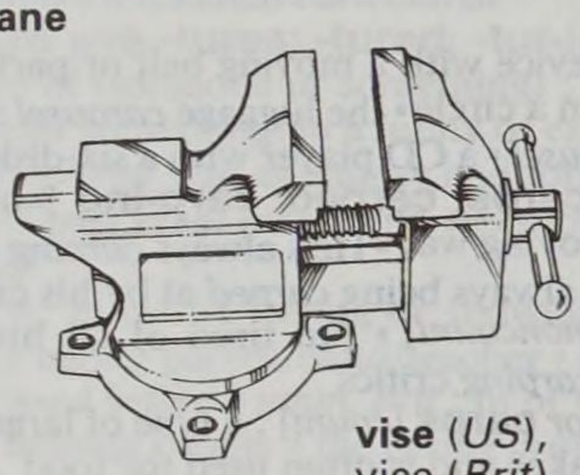
plane



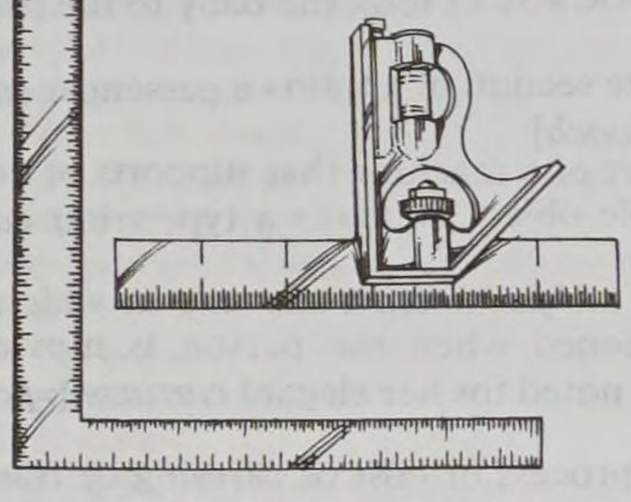
drill



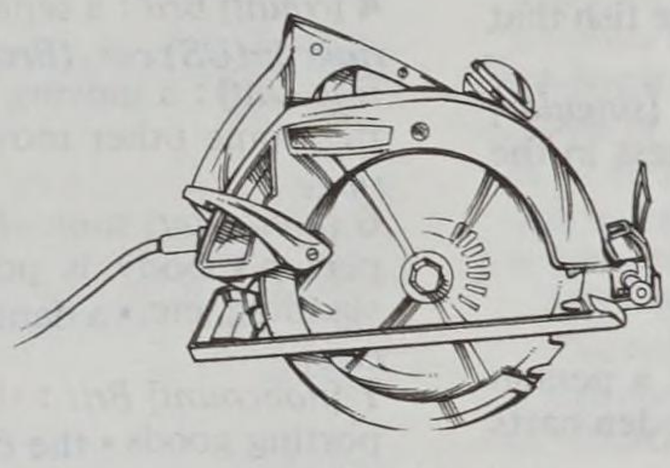
sander



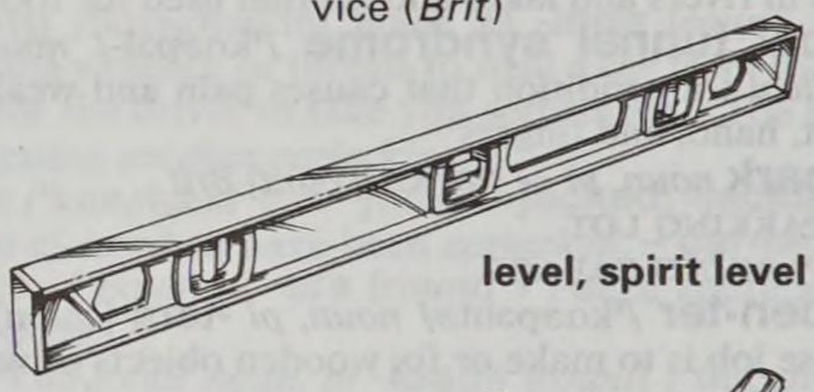
vise (*US*),
vice (*Brit*)



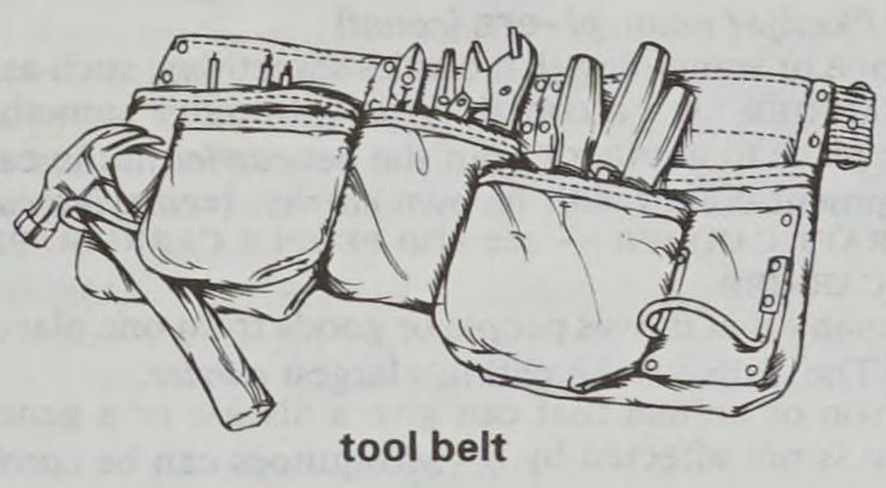
squares



circular saw



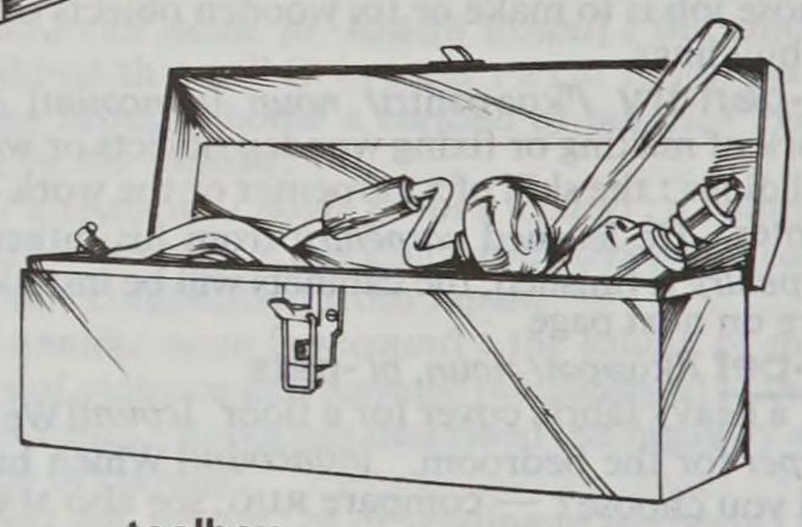
level, spirit level



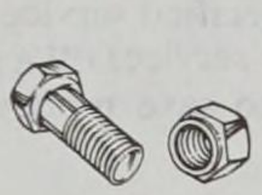
tool belt



tape measure

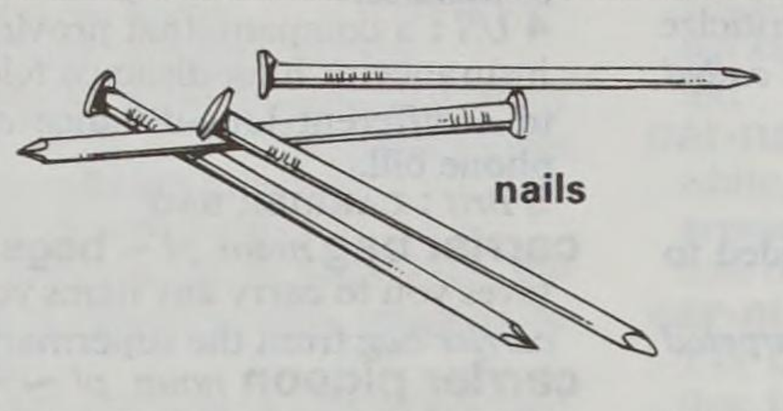


toolbox

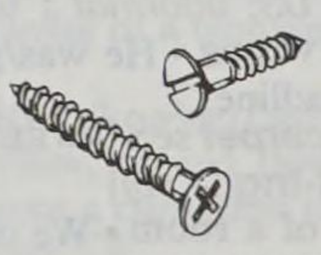


bolt

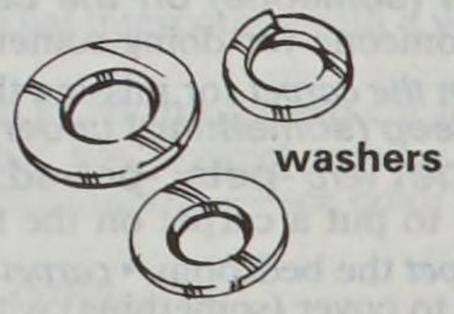
nut



nails



screws



washers

rot and the *stick*. ▪ The administration was criticized for its *carrot-and-stick* approach to foreign policy.

car•rot•top /ˈkerətˌtɑːp/ *noun, pl* **-tops** [*count*] *informal* : a person with red hair : REDHEAD

[1]car•ry /ˈkeri/ *verb* **-ries**; **-ried**; **-ry•ing**

1 [+ *obj*] : to move (something) while holding and supporting it ▪ She helped me *carry* [=*transport*] the boxes out to my car. ▪ I'll *carry* your luggage to your room. ▪ He was *carrying* his baby daughter in his arms. ▪ For two months, I *carried* the book around with me everywhere I went. ▪ The waitress *carried* away our empty dinner plates. ▪ The wind *carried* the smoke away from the campsite. ▪ These planes can *carry* up to 300 passengers. ▪ a ship *carrying* thousands of gallons of o — sometimes used figuratively ▪ Your talent will *carry* yo far. [=it will make you very successful] ▪ She intended th play to *carry* audiences toward a sense of peace and under standing. ▪ She still *carries* the memories of an unhapp childhood. ▪ The song ***carries me back to*** [=it makes me re member] my first year of college.

2 [+ *obj*] : to contain and direct the flow of (water, electrici ty, etc.) ▪ Oil is *carried* to the factory through these pipes. We installed gutters that will *carry* water away from th house. ▪ blood vessels that *carry* blood to the heart ▪ Thes cables *carry* electricity to hundreds of homes. ▪ The bridg

carries traffic in two directions.

3 [+ *obj*] : to have (something) with you or on your body ▪ Do police officers *carry* guns when they're off duty? ▪ This bus driver doesn't *carry* change, so please have the exact fare ready. ▪ I always *carry* $20 in case of an emergency. ▪ tourists *carrying* cameras

4 [+ *obj*] : to be able to give (a disease or a gene) to others even though you may not be affected by it ▪ One percent of the population now *carries* the virus, and one in three will suffer symptoms of the disease.

5 [+ *obj*] : to be pregnant with (a baby) ▪ She's *carrying* her second child.

6 [+ *obj*] : to hold (your body or your head) in a particular way ▪ He's over 80 years old and still *carries* himself erect/upright like a soldier. ▪ Be proud of yourself. Walk tall and *carry* your head high! ▪ She always *carries* [=(more formally) *comports*] herself with dignity and grace.

7 [+ *obj*] **a** : to have (something) in a store and ready to be sold : to keep (something) in stock ▪ Our grocery store *carries* a good selection of wines. ▪ We no longer *carry* that brand. **b** : to have (someone or something) on a list or record ▪ The company *carries* nearly 200 employees on its payroll.

8 [+ *obj*] **a** : to have (something) as a quality or characteristic ▪ All of our products *carry* a lifetime guarantee. ▪ Your promises would ***carry more weight*** [=they would be more meaningful] if you didn't break them so often. **b** : to be marked or labeled with (something) ▪ Cigarettes are required to *carry* a government health warning. ▪ men who *carry* the physical scars of war

9 [+ *obj*] : to have (something) as a result or consequence ▪ Such crimes *carry* [=*entail*, *involve*] a heavy penalty. ▪ The surgery does *carry* certain risks. — often + *with* ▪ You must understand that the job *carries with* it great responsibility.

10 [+ *obj*] : to have (something) as a duty or responsibility ▪ I'm *carrying* a full course load this semester. ▪ He ***carries the weight of the world on his shoulders***. [=he feels much pressure because he has great responsibilities]

11 [+ *obj*] : to be responsible for the success of (something or someone) ▪ He's a player that's capable of *carrying* a team on his own. ▪ Her spectacular performance as Carmen *carried* the opera.

12 a [+ *obj*] : to make (something) continue ▪ They *carried* [=*took*, *extended*] the game into the 10th inning. ▪ The newspaper *carried* the story over to the following page. ▪ The design calls for the columns to be *carried* all the way up to the top of the building. ▪ *carrying* the war to another continent **b** [*no obj*] : to travel a long distance ▪ His deep voice *carries* well. ▪ Baseballs don't *carry* well in cold weather.

13 [+ *obj*] : to continue (something) beyond a normal or acceptable limit ▪ He realized that he had *carried* the joke too far and hurt her feelings. — see also *carry (something) to extremes* at ²EXTREME

14 [+ *obj*] : to sing (a tune) correctly ▪ I've never been able to *carry* a tune.

15 [+ *obj*] : to present (a story, sports event, TV show, etc.) to the public ▪ Channel 9 will *carry* the game. ▪ Every local newspaper *carried* [=*ran*] the photograph. ▪ The trial was *carried* live [=broadcast as it was happening] on television.

16 a : to cause (a bill or an official proposal) to be passed or adopted [+ *obj*] — often used as *(be) carried* ▪ The bill *was carried* in the Senate by a vote of 75–25. [*no obj*] He called for a motion to stop debate, but the motion did not *carry*. ▪ The motion *carried* unanimously. [=everyone voted to pass it] **b** [+ *obj*] *chiefly US* : to win a majority of votes in (a state, legislature, etc.) ▪ The bill *carried* the Senate by a vote of 75–25. ▪ In the presidential election of 1936, Franklin D. Roosevelt *carried* [=*won*, *took*] all the states except Maine and Vermont.

17 [+ *obj*] : to move (a number) from one column to another when you are adding numbers together ▪ When you added these two numbers, you forgot to *carry* the 1.

be/get carried away : to be so excited that you are no longer in control of your behavior ▪ I shouldn't have behaved like that. I just *got carried away*. ▪ Just relax! There's no need to *get carried away*. ▪ They allowed themselves to *be carried away* by fear.

carry all/everything before you *literary* : to be completely successful ▪ This young boxer has the talent to *carry all before him*.

carry a torch for see ¹TORCH

carry coals to Newcastle see COAL

carry into effect see ¹EFFECT

carry off [*phrasal verb*] ***carry off (something)*** *or* ***carry (something) off*** **1** : to do (something difficult) successfully : to achieve or accomplish (something) ▪ He tried to look cool but couldn't *carry it off*. [=*pull it off*] ▪ She's the only actress I know with enough talent to *carry this off*. **2** : to win (something) ▪ We *carried off* the prize.

carry on [*phrasal verb*] **1** : to continue to do what you have been doing ▪ I didn't mean to interrupt you—please *carry on*. ▪ She *carried on* as if nothing had happened. : to continue despite problems ▪ I know it's difficult, but you need to *carry on* as best you can. **2** : to behave or speak in an excited or foolish way ▪ They laughed and *carried on* like they were old friends. ▪ We were embarrassed by the way he was *carrying on*. ▪ She's always *carrying on* [=talking in an excited way] about her neighbors. ▪ screaming, crying, and *carrying on* — see also CARRYINGS-ON, CARRY-ON **3** ***carry on (something)*** **a** : to manage or participate in (an activity) ▪ She *carried on* an affair with her boss. ▪ It's too noisy in here to *carry on* a conversation. ▪ The police are *carrying on* [=*conducting*] an investigation into his murder. ▪ *carrying on* a campaign against illegal drug use **b** : to continue doing (something) ▪ The money allows us to *carry on* our research. ▪ Although the teacher spoke to them, they just *carried on* [=*went on*, *kept on*] talking. **c** : to cause (something, such as a tradition) to continue ▪ We were the only ones left to *carry on* the tradition. ▪ *carrying on* the family name **4** ***carry on with (something)*** : to continue doing or participating in (an activity) ▪ Please *carry on with* what you were doing. ▪ They *carried on with* their conversation. **5** ***carry on with (someone)*** *chiefly Brit, old-fashioned* : to have an often immoral sexual relationship with (someone) ▪ I found out that he had been *carrying on with* [=(more commonly) *fooling around with*] my sister.

carry out [*phrasal verb*] ***carry (something) out*** *or* ***carry out (something)*** **1** : to do and complete (something) ▪ We *carried out* several experiments to test the theory. ▪ An investigation *carried out* several years ago revealed no new information. **2** : to act on (a promise, plan, etc.) : to do something that you said you would do or that someone has asked you to do ▪ She failed to *carry out* [=*fulfill*] her promise. ▪ The town has plans to build a new school, but it currently lacks the money to *carry* them *out*. ▪ You'll be paid when you've *carried out* [=*executed*] your instructions/orders/duties. — see also CARRYOUT

carry over [*phrasal verb*] **1** : to continue to exist or be seen in another place or situation ▪ His unhappiness at home *carried over* into/to his work. ▪ Her abilities in singing didn't *carry over* to acting. **2** ***carry (something) over*** *or* ***carry over (something)*** : to cause or allow (something) to continue in another place or situation ▪ People can *carry* bad eating habits learned in childhood *over* to/into adulthood. — see also CARRYOVER

carry the ball see ¹BALL

carry the can see ²CAN

carry the day see DAY

carry the torch see ¹TORCH

carry through [*phrasal verb*] **1 a** : to continue to exist or happen — usually + *to* ▪ The yellow and blue theme in the kitchen *carries through to* the rest of the house. ▪ Our conversation *carried through to* dessert. **b** : to continue to do something — usually + *to* ▪ Though extremely tired, she managed to *carry through to* the finish. **2** ***carry through with/on (something)*** *US* : to do (something that you said you would do) ▪ The mayor *carried through* [=*followed through*] *on* her promise to clean up the city. ▪ We're beginning to *carry through with* [=*carry out*] our plans. **3** ***carry (something) through*** : to successfully finish or complete (something that you have begun or said you will do) ▪ Whatever project you begin, you must *carry it through* to completion. **4 a** ***carry (someone) through*** : to help or allow (someone) to survive or continue ▪ We had enough supplies to *carry us through* (until spring). ▪ His faith *carried him through*. **b** ***carry (someone) through (something)*** : to help or allow (someone) to survive or continue during (a period of time) ▪ We had enough supplies to *carry us through* the winter. ▪ His faith *carried him through* a difficult time in his life. ▪ I borrowed a few more books to *carry me through* the summer.

fetch and carry see FETCH

²carry *noun, pl* **-ries** [*count*] *American football* : the act of running with the ball ▪ He averaged four yards per *carry* this season.

car•ry•all /ˈkeriˌɑːl/ *noun, pl* **-alls** [*count*] *US* : a large bag or

carrying case — called also (*Brit*) *holdall*; see picture at BAG

car•ry–cot /ˈkeriˌkɑːt/ *noun, pl* **-cots** [*count*] *Brit* : a small bed that is used for carrying a young baby

carrying case *noun, pl* ~ **cases** [*count*] : a container that usually has a handle and that is made for carrying something with your hand ▪ The guitar had a plastic *carrying case*.

carryings–on *noun* [*plural*] : foolish, excited, or improper actions ▪ the questionable *carryings-on* of politicians ▪ the *carryings-on* of teenage boys — see also *carry on* at ¹CARRY

¹car•ry–on /ˈkeriˌɑːn/ *noun, pl* **-ons**

1 [*count*] *US* : a small piece of luggage that a passenger can carry onto an airplane ▪ I packed the book in my *carry-on*.

2 [*singular*] *Brit, informal* : a moment of excitement or silly behavior ▪ She makes such a big *carry-on* [=*fuss, stir*] about everything. ▪ What a *carry-on*! — see also *carry on* at ¹CARRY

²carry–on *adj, always used before a noun* : small enough to be carried onto an airplane by a passenger ▪ *carry-on* baggage/luggage

car•ry•out /ˈkeriˌaʊt/ *noun, pl* **-outs** *chiefly US*

1 [*noncount*] : TAKEOUT 1 ▪ We ordered Chinese *carryout*.

2 [*count*] : TAKEOUT 2 ▪ She works in a Chinese *carryout*.

– **carryout** *adj, chiefly US* ▪ *carryout* food ▪ a *carryout* restaurant

car•ry•over /ˈkeriˌoʊvɚ/ *noun, pl* **-overs** [*count*] : something that existed in one time or place and continues in another ▪ His tendency to eat everything on his plate is a *carryover* [=*holdover*] from his childhood. ▪ superstitions that are *carryovers* from ancient times — see also *carry over* at ¹CARRY

car seat *noun, pl* ~ **seats** [*count*] : a special seat for a baby or a small child that can be attached to an automobile seat and that holds the child safely

car•sick /ˈkɑɚˌsɪk/ *adj* : feeling sick while riding in a car because of the movement of the vehicle

– **car•sick•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

¹cart /ˈkɑɚt/ *noun, pl* **carts** [*count*]

1 : a wagon with two wheels that is pulled by an animal (such as a horse or donkey)

2 : a small wheeled vehicle that is pushed: such as **a** *US* : a metal basket on wheels used to hold groceries while you are shopping ▪ a grocery *cart* — called also *shopping cart*, (*Brit*) *trolley* **b** *US* : a table with wheels used especially for serving food ▪ a dessert *cart* — called also (*Brit*) *trolley*

3 : GOLF CART

put the cart before the horse : to do things in the wrong order : to do something first instead of waiting until something else has been done ▪ People are *putting the cart before the horse* by making plans on how to spend the money before we are even certain that the money will be available.

upset the apple cart see ²UPSET

²cart *verb* **carts**; **cart•ed**; **cart•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to carry or move (something) in a cart ▪ We *carted* some dirt to the garden.

2 : to carry or move (something) ▪ I *carted* all the books home. ▪ He *carted* the bags away.

3 : to take (someone) away by force — usually + *off* ▪ They *carted* him *off* to jail.

carte blanche /ˌkɑɚtˈblɑːnʃ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : permission to do something in any way you choose to do it ▪ We gave the decorator *carte blanche* to furnish the house.

car•tel /kɑɚˈtɛl/ *noun, pl* **-tels** [*count*] : a group of businesses that agree to fix prices so they all will make more money ▪ an illegal drug *cartel*

car•ti•lage /ˈkɑɚtəlɪʤ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a strong but flexible material found in some parts of the body (such as the nose, the outer ear, and some joints) ▪ She fell and damaged some *cartilage* in her knee.

– **car•ti•lag•i•nous** /ˌkɑɚtəˈlæʤənəs/ *adj* ▪ *cartilaginous* tissue

car•tog•ra•pher /kɑɚˈtɑːgrəfɚ/ *noun, pl* **-phers** [*count*] : a person who makes maps

car•tog•ra•phy /kɑɚˈtɑːgrəfi/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the process or skill of making maps ▪ She studied *cartography* in college.

– **car•tog•ra•phic** /ˌkɑɚtəˈgræfɪk/ *adj* ▪ *cartographic* skills ▪ *cartographic* data

car•ton /ˈkɑɚtn̩/ *noun, pl* **-tons** [*count*]

1 : a light box or container usually made of cardboard or plastic ▪ She got a *carton* of ice cream out of the freezer. ▪ a *carton* of orange juice ▪ a milk *carton*

2 *US* : a box containing things that have been packed together so they can be sold or moved ▪ He bought a *carton* of cigarettes. ▪ Several *cartons* of books arrived yesterday.

car•toon /kɑɚˈtuːn/ *noun, pl* **-toons** [*count*]

1 a : a drawing in a newspaper or magazine intended as a humorous comment on something ▪ a political *cartoon* **b** : a series of drawings that tell a story : COMIC STRIP ▪ She enjoys reading the *cartoons* in the Sunday paper.

2 : a film or television show made by photographing a series of drawings : an animated film or television show ▪ The kids are watching *cartoons*. ▪ a *cartoon* character

3 *technical* : a design, drawing, or painting made by an artist as a model for the finished work

– **car•toon•ist** /kɑɚˈtuːnɪst/ *noun, pl* **-ists** [*count*]

car•tridge /ˈkɑɚtrɪʤ/ *noun, pl* **-tridg•es** [*count*]

1 : a tube which you put into a gun and which contains a bullet and explosive material

2 : a case or container that you put into a machine to make it work ▪ a video game *cartridge* ▪ The printer needs a new ink *cartridge*.

¹cart•wheel /ˈkɑɚtˌwiːl/ *noun, pl* **-wheels** [*count*] : an athletic movement in which you move sideways by placing one hand and then the other on the ground, lifting your feet into the air, and then landing on one foot and then the other foot ▪ The children turned/did *cartwheels* and somersaults on the grass.

²cartwheel *verb* **-wheels**; **-wheeled**; **-wheel•ing** [*no obj*]

1 : to do a cartwheel ▪ She *cartwheeled* across the floor.

2 : to spin or turn over in a violent and uncontrolled way ▪ The car hit the pole and then *cartwheeled* across the road.

carve /ˈkɑɚv/ *verb* **carves**; **carved**; **carv•ing**

1 [+ *obj*] : to make (something, such as a sculpture or design) by cutting off pieces of the material it is made of ▪ We *carved* an ice sculpture. ▪ a *carved* object — often + *out of* or *from* ▪ He *carved* the sculpture *out of* marble. ▪ She *carves* figures *from* wood.

2 [+ *obj*] **a** : to cut (something, such as a pattern or design) into a surface — often + *into* or *on* ▪ He *carved* his name *on/into* the table. ▪ Their initials are *carved into* the tree. **b** : to create (something) by cutting into a surface — often + *out* ▪ The Colorado River *carved out* the Grand Canyon.

3 : to cut (cooked meat) into pieces or slices [+ *obj*] Who is going to *carve* the turkey? ▪ Would you *carve* me another slice of turkey, please? = Would you carve another slice of turkey for me? [*no obj*] He *carved* while I made the gravy.

4 [+ *obj*] : to create (a job, a fortune, a way of life, etc.) for yourself usually through hard work ▪ He *carved* a new life for himself after the divorce. — often + *out* ▪ She worked hard to *carve out* a career in education.

carved in stone see ¹STONE

carve up [*phrasal verb*] ***carve up (something) or carve (something) up*** *usually disapproving* : to divide something into small parts ▪ The once beautiful countryside has been *carved up* by developers.

– **carv•er** *noun, pl* **-vers** [*count*] ▪ a talented *carver*

carv•ing /ˈkɑɚvɪŋ/ *noun, pl* **-ings**

1 [*count*] : a carved object, design, or figure ▪ She bought a small wooden *carving* of a Buddha.

2 [*noncount*] : the act or skill of creating carved objects, designs, or figures ▪ an ancient people proficient in stone *carving* — see also WOOD CARVING

carving knife *noun, pl* ~ **knives** [*count*] : a sharp knife that is used to cut cooked meat

car wash *noun, pl* ~ **washes** [*count*]

1 : an area or building with equipment for washing cars ▪ a drive-through *car wash*

2 *US* : an event at which people pay to have their cars washed in order to raise money for some purpose ▪ Our church is having a *car wash* tomorrow from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Ca•sa•no•va /ˌkæzəˈnoʊvə/ *noun, pl* **-vas** [*count*] : a man who has many lovers ▪ He has a terrible reputation as a *Casanova*.

¹cas•cade /kæˈskeɪd/ *noun, pl* **-cades** [*count*]

1 : a small, steep waterfall; *especially* : one that is part of a series of waterfalls

2 : a large amount of something that flows or hangs down ▪ a *cascade* of water ▪ Her hair was arranged in a *cascade of* curls.

3 : a large number of things that happen quickly in a series ▪ That decision set off a *cascade of* events.

²cascade *verb* **-cades**; **-cad•ed**; **-cad•ing** [*no obj*] : to flow or hang down in large amounts ▪ The water *cascades* over the

rocks. ▪ Her hair *cascaded* down around her shoulders.

[1]case /ˈkeɪs/ *noun, pl* **cas·es**

1 [*count*] : a situation or occurrence that is an instance or example of something ▪ That was true in all three *cases*. [=*instances*] ▪ We usually ask for a 100-dollar deposit, but ***in this case*** we'll make an exception. ▪ They might not let you buy the tickets yet, ***in which case*** [=and if that is true] you should try again tomorrow. ▪ It was a ***case of mistaken identity***. [=a situation in which someone or something is mistakenly thought to be someone or something else] ▪ a ***classic case*** [=a typical example] of sibling rivalry

2 [*count*] : a situation that is being investigated or managed by someone (such as a police officer or social worker) in an official way ▪ Her disappearance is a *case* for the police. ▪ Detectives are on the *case*. ▪ a murder/rape/kidnapping *case* ▪ The abused child's *case* was turned over to state authorities.

3 [*count*] *grammar* : a form of a noun, pronoun, or adjective showing its relationship to other words in a sentence ▪ The word "child's" in "a child's shirt" is in the possessive *case*.

4 ***the case*** : what actually exists or happens ▪ A lot of people have had trouble working with him, and that was certainly *the case* with me. [=I also had trouble working with him] ▪ She had expected him to come home, but that was not to be *the case*. [=but that didn't happen] ▪ The doctor may or may not have been at fault, but ***whatever the case (may be)*** [=either way] the patient almost died. ▪ ***Is it not the case*** [=isn't it true] that she took the car without permission?

5 [*count*] *law* : a situation that will be talked about and decided in court ▪ a court *case* ▪ a civil/criminal *case* ▪ The lawyer agreed to take/handle the *case*. ✧ The phrase ***I rest my case*** can be used to say that you have finished an argument or to suggest that something proves that what you are saying is true. ▪ I said that it wouldn't work and it didn't. *I rest my case*. — see also TEST CASE

6 [*count*] : a convincing argument ▪ He makes a good *case* for cutting expenses.

7 [*count*] **a** : an occurrence of a disease or an injury ▪ an AIDS *case* ▪ He has a bad/severe/slight *case* of the flu. **b** : an occurrence of discomfort, fear, etc. ▪ She had a bad *case* of the nerves/jitters/butterflies [=she was very nervous] before she gave her report.

8 [*singular*] : a particular person and his or her condition or character ▪ You are a sad *case*. — see also BASKET CASE, HEAD CASE

in any case — used to indicate that something is true or certain regardless of what else has happened or been said ▪ I'm not sure if I'll be at the next meeting, but I'll see you Sunday *in any case*. [=I may or may not see you at the next meeting, but I'll definitely see you Sunday] ▪ *In any case*, you still owe me five dollars.

in case **1** : for the purpose of being ready for something that might happen ▪ Bring an umbrella *in case* it rains. ▪ We brought extra money ***just in case***. **2** — used to talk about something that might have happened or that might be true ▪ Today is our anniversary, *in case* you've forgotten. ▪ *In case* [=*if*] you're wondering, I'm looking for my glasses.

in case of : if (something) happens ▪ That door is for use *in case of* [=*in the event of*] fire.

in that case : when that is considered : because of that ▪ "The traffic could be heavy tomorrow." "*In that case*, we better leave early."

on/off your case *informal* ✧ Someone who is always or frequently criticizing you or telling you what to do is *on your case* and won't ***get off your case***. ▪ Her brother is always *on her case* about the clothes she wears. ▪ *Get off my case*! I'm working as hard as I can!

– compare [2]CASE

[2]case *noun, pl* **cases** [*count*]

1 : a box or container to hold something ▪ a cigarette/pencil *case* — see also CARRYING CASE

2 : the contents of a box ▪ They drank a *case* [=four six-packs; 24 bottles] of beer.

– compare [1]CASE

[3]case *verb* **cases**; **cased**; **cas·ing** [+ *obj*] : to study or watch (a house, store, etc.) with plans to rob it — often used in the phrase ***case the joint*** ▪ A couple of robbers decided to *case the joint*.

case history *noun, pl* ~ **-ries** [*count*] : a record that shows a person's past illnesses, treatments, and other information for use by doctors, social workers, etc. ▪ The patient's *case history* showed recurring fits of depression.

case in point *noun* [*singular*] : a specific example used to show that something you have said is true ▪ He spends a lot of money on unnecessary things. A *case in point* is his collection of rare sports cars.

case law *noun* [*noncount*] : law that is based on decisions that judges have made in past cases ▪ *Case law* says that a person has a right to privacy.

case·load /ˈkeɪsˌloʊd/ *noun, pl* **-loads** [*count*] : the number or amount of cases handled by a court, social worker, etc. ▪ We have a heavy/light *caseload* today.

case·ment /ˈkeɪsmənt/ *noun, pl* **-ments** [*count*] : a window that opens on hinges like a door — called also *casement window*; see picture at WINDOW

case study *noun, pl* ~ **-ies** [*count*] : a published report about a person, group, or situation that has been studied over time ▪ a *case study* of prisoners; *also* : a situation in real life that can be looked at or studied to learn about something ▪ The company's recent history is a *case study* in bad management.

case·work /ˈkeɪsˌwɚk/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the work done by a social worker to help fix the problems of a person or family – **case·work·er** /ˈkeɪsˌwɚkɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

[1]cash /ˈkæʃ/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 : money in the form of coins and bills ▪ The vending machine only accepts *cash*. ▪ The fine may be paid by check or in *cash*. ▪ He offered to pay *cash* for the truck. — often used before another noun ▪ *cash* payments/prizes/sums

2 : money along with other things (such as stocks) that can be quickly changed into money ▪ The company has $4 million in *cash*.

[2]cash *verb* **cash·es**; **cashed**; **cash·ing** [+ *obj*] : to give or get cash for (a check) ▪ The store wouldn't *cash* the check. ▪ He *cashed* his paycheck at the bank.

cash in [*phrasal verb*] **1** ***cash in (something) or cash (something) in*** : to obtain money for (something that you own) ▪ She *cashed in* her stocks. ▪ *cash in* an insurance policy **2 a** ***cash in on (something)*** : to take advantage of something in order to make money ▪ The magazine is planning to *cash in on* the hype surrounding the celebrity's wedding by publishing exclusive photos of the ceremony. ▪ Carpenters *cashed in on* the construction boom. ▪ stores *cashing in on* Christmas **b** ***cash in*** : to make money from something ▪ He is going to *cash in* big [=make a lot of money] when he sells his house at the beach.

cash–and–car·ry /ˌkæʃn̩ˈkeri/ *noun, pl* **-ries** [*count*] : a store where businesses and other customers can pay cash for goods at low prices and take them away instead of having them delivered

– **cash–and–carry** *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ items sold on a *cash-and-carry* basis

cash bar *noun, pl* ~ **bars** [*count*] : a place at a party where guests can buy drinks ▪ They had a *cash bar* at their wedding reception.

cash card *noun, pl* ~ **cards** [*count*] *Brit* : a card that is used to get money from an ATM : an ATM card — compare BANK CARD

cash cow *noun, pl* ~ **cows** [*count*] : someone or something that makes a lot of money for a business, organization, etc. ▪ The football team was a *cash cow* for the university. ▪ The movie studio saw the actress as a *cash cow*.

cash crop *noun, pl* ~ **crops** [*count*] : a crop (such as tobacco or cotton) that is grown to be sold rather than for use by the farmer

cash desk *noun, pl* ~ **desks** [*count*] *Brit* : a checkout counter in a store : the place in a store where you pay for the things you are buying

cash dispenser *noun, pl* ~ **-ers** [*count*] *Brit* : ATM

cash·ew /ˈkæʃu, kəˈʃu/ *noun, pl* **-ews** [*count*] : a type of roasted nut that has a curved shape — called also *cashew nut*; see picture at NUT

cash flow *noun* : the movement of money in and out of a business [*singular*] We were able to maintain a steady *cash flow*. [*noncount*] The company is looking at new ways to generate *cash flow*.

[1]cash·ier /kæˈʃiɚ/ *noun, pl* **-iers** [*count*] : a person whose job is to take in or give out money in a store, bank, etc.

[2]ca·shier /kæˈʃiɚ/ *verb* **-shiers**; **-shiered**; **-shier·ing** [+ *obj*] : to remove (a person) from a position for doing something wrong ▪ He was *cashiered* from the army.

cashier's check *noun, pl* ~ **checks** [*count*] : a check that is written by a bank and signed by a cashier — compare BANK DRAFT

cash machine *noun, pl* ~ **-chines** [*count*] *Brit* : ATM

cash·mere /ˈkæʒˌmiɚ, ˈkæʃˌmiɚ/ *noun* [*noncount*]
1 : fine wool from a kind of goat from India
2 : a soft fabric made from cashmere wool — often used before another noun ▪ a *cashmere* sweater

cash·point /ˈkæʃˌpoɪnt/ *noun, pl* **-points** [*count*] *Brit* : ATM

cash register *noun, pl* ~ **-ters** [*count*] : a machine used in a store, restaurant, etc., that calculates the amount of cash due for a sale and has a drawer for holding money

cas·ing /ˈkeɪsɪŋ/ *noun, pl* **-ings** [*count*]
1 : a layer on the outside of something that covers and protects it ▪ a sausage *casing* ▪ a *casing* for a shotgun shell
2 : a frame around a door or window

ca·si·no /kəˈsiːnoʊ/ *noun, pl* **-nos** [*count*] : a building or room that has games (such as roulette or blackjack) for gambling

cask /ˈkæsk, *Brit* ˈkɑːsk/ *noun, pl* **casks** [*count*] : a container that is shaped like a barrel and is used for holding liquids ▪ an oak *cask* for wine; *also* : the contents of a cask ▪ They drank a *cask* of wine.

cas·ket /ˈkæskət, *Brit* ˈkɑːskət/ *noun, pl* **-kets** [*count*]
1 *chiefly US* : COFFIN
2 : a small chest or box for jewelry or other valuable things
✧ This sense is no longer common in U.S. English.

cas·sa·va /kəˈsɑːvə/ *noun, pl* **-vas** [*count, noncount*] : a tropical plant with thick roots that are used to make small white grains (called tapioca) that are used in cooking

cas·se·role /ˈkæsəˌroʊl/ *noun, pl* **-roles**
1 : food (such as meat, noodles, and vegetables) baked together and served in a deep dish [*count*] a seafood *casserole* [*noncount*] I made tuna *casserole* for dinner.
2 [*count*] : a deep dish used for baking ▪ meat and noodles served in a *casserole* — called also *casserole dish*

cas·sette /kəˈsɛt/ *noun, pl* **-settes** [*count*] : a thin case that holds audio tape or videotape and in which the tape passes from one reel to another when being played ▪ a *cassette* player/recorder ▪ The songs are available on *cassette*. — see also VIDEOCASSETTE

cas·sock /ˈkæsək/ *noun, pl* **-socks** [*count*] : a long gown worn by a priest

[1]cast /ˈkæst, *Brit* ˈkɑːst/ *verb* **casts; cast; cast·ing** [+ *obj*]
1 a : to throw or move (something) in a forceful way ▪ *cast* [=*throw, toss*] a stone ▪ Seaweed was *cast* up by the waves. **b** : to throw (a fishing line, hook, etc.) into the water by using a fishing pole
2 a : to send or direct (something) in the direction of someone or something ▪ He *cast* a glance toward the door. [=he glanced at the door] ▪ The witch *cast* [=*put*] a spell on him. **b** : to send (something) out or forward ▪ The fire *casts* [=*gives off*] a warm glow. ▪ The tree *cast* a long shadow on the lawn. — often used figuratively ▪ The trial *casts* a harsh light on [=reveals bad things about] the banking industry. ▪ Their argument ***cast a pall*** on the party. [=gave the party an unhappy mood] ▪ The incident ***casts doubt*** on her honesty.
3 : to make (a vote) formally ▪ How many votes were *cast*? ▪ *cast* a ballot
4 a : to assign roles for (a play, movie, etc.) to actors ▪ *cast* a play **b** : to assign (an actor or actress) a role in a film, play, etc. ▪ She was *cast* as a college professor who becomes a spy. — see also TYPECAST
5 a : to shape (a substance) by pouring it into a mold and letting it harden ▪ The metal was *cast* into candlesticks. ▪ molds used for *casting* steel **b** : to form (something, such as a sculpture) by casting metal, plaster, etc. ▪ The statue will be *cast* in bronze.
6 : to arrange (something) into parts or into a proper form ▪ He *cast* the story in the form of a diary.
7 : to talk about or think of (someone or something) in a particular way ▪ The war was *cast* as a battle against terrorism. ▪ Health care issues are often *cast* in economic terms.

cast about/around for [*phrasal verb*] ***cast about/around for (something)*** : to look in many places for (something) ▪ They *cast about for* new ways to make money on the farm. ▪ She is still *casting around for* [=*seeking*] someone to watch her son while she is at work.

cast a (dark) cloud see [1]CLOUD

cast adrift [*phrasal verb*] **1 *cast (a boat) adrift*** : to cause (a boat) to float on the water without being tied to anything or controlled by anyone — often used as *(be) cast adrift* ▪ a small lifeboat *cast adrift* in the open sea **2 *cast (someone) adrift*** : to cause (someone) to float on the water in a boat that is not tied to anything or controlled by anyone — often used as *(be) cast adrift* ▪ They *were cast adrift* in a small, leaky boat. — often used figuratively ▪ I *was cast adrift* in a sea of confusion.

cast aside [*phrasal verb*] ***cast aside (something)*** *or* ***cast (something) aside*** : to stop thinking about (something) ▪ She tried to *cast aside* her worries and enjoy the party.

cast aspersions see ASPERSIONS

cast away [*phrasal verb*] ***cast away (someone)*** *or* ***cast (someone) away*** : to leave (someone) alone somewhere (such as on an island) as a result of a storm, shipwreck, etc. — usually used as *(be) cast away* ▪ The crew *was cast away* on a desert island. — see also CASTAWAY

cast caution to the wind see [1]CAUTION

cast light on see [1]LIGHT

cast lots see LOT

cast off [*phrasal verb*] **1 *cast off (something)*** *or* ***cast (something) off*** : to get rid of (something) ▪ The snake *casts off* [=*sheds*] its skin. ▪ They wanted to *cast off* their fears. — see also CASTOFF, CAST-OFF **2** : to untie the rope that is holding a boat near the land ▪ We decided to *cast off* and head out to sea. **3** : to remove stitches from a knitting needle in a way that does not cause them to become loose ▪ When I finish this row, can you show me how to *cast off*?

cast on [*phrasal verb*] : to place stitches on a knitting needle ▪ I was having trouble *casting on*, but I think I have it now.

cast out [*phrasal verb*] ***cast out (someone or something)*** *or* ***cast (someone or something) out*** : to force (someone or something) to go away ▪ He was *cast out* of [=expelled from] the tribe. ▪ They tried to *cast out* the spirits from the haunted house.

cast pearls before swine see PEARL

cast your eye over see [1]EYE

cast your lot see LOT

cast your mind back see [1]MIND

cast your net wide see [1]NET

the die is cast see [2]DIE

[2]cast *noun, pl* **casts**
1 [*count*] : the actors in a play, film, or television show ▪ members of the *cast* = *cast* members ▪ The show features ***an all-star cast*** [=a cast that includes many famous actors] ▪ a strong ***supporting cast*** [=the actors other than the main stars] ✧ The phrase ***cast of characters*** is sometimes used to refer to a group of people who have important roles in a book, story, or event. ▪ The *cast of characters* includes President Johnson and his top advisers during the Vietnam War.


cast

2 [*count*] : a hard covering that is put on an arm, leg, etc., so that a broken bone can heal ▪ She has a *cast* on her arm. — called also *plaster cast*
3 [*count*] : a container that is used to give its form or shape to something that is poured or pressed into it : MOLD; *also* : an object that is made by using such a container ▪ They made a mask from a wax *cast* of her face.
4 [*singular*] *literary* : the shape or appearance of something ▪ His face had a rugged *cast*.
5 [*singular*] : a slight bit of color ▪ old photographs with a reddish *cast*
6 [*singular*] : a characteristic of a person or thing : a distinctive quality ▪ She has a skeptical ***cast of mind***. [=she tends to be skeptical]
7 [*count*] : the act of throwing a fishing line into water with a pole

cas·ta·nets /ˌkæstəˈnɛts/ *noun* [*plural*] : a musical instrument that consists of two small, round parts that are clicked together by the fingers

cast·away /ˈkæstəˌweɪ, *Brit* ˈkɑːstəˌweɪ/ *noun, pl* **-aways** [*count*] : a person who is left alone in a place (such as an island) as a result of a storm, shipwreck, etc. — see also *cast away* at [1]CAST

caste /ˈkæst, *Brit* ˈkɑːst/ *noun, pl* **castes**
1 [*count*] : one of the classes into which the Hindu people of India were traditionally divided
2 : a division of society based upon differences of wealth, rank, or occupation [*count*] He was from a higher *caste*. [*noncount*] a system of *caste* = a *caste* system

cast·er (*US*) *or Brit* **cas·tor** /ˈkæstɚ, *Brit* ˈkɑːstə/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a small wheel attached to the bottom of some-

thing (such as a piece of furniture) to make it easier to move

cas·ti·gate /'kæstə,geɪt/ *verb* **-gates**; **-gat·ed**; **-gat·ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to criticize (someone) harshly ▪ The author *castigated* the prime minister as an ineffective leader. — often + *for* ▪ The judge *castigated* the lawyers *for* their lack of preparation. ▪ He was *castigated* in the media *for* making millions of dollars while the company went bankrupt.
– **cas·ti·ga·tion** /,kæstə'geɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*]

cast·ing /'kæstɪŋ, *Brit* 'kɑ:stɪŋ/ *noun, pl* **-ings** [*count*] : something made from material that hardens in a mold ▪ The workers make metal *castings* for truck engines.

cast iron *noun* [*noncount*] : a very hard type of metal that is made into different shapes by being melted and poured into special containers (called casts or molds) ▪ The fence is made of *cast iron*.

cast–iron *adj*
1 : made of cast iron ▪ a *cast-iron* stove
2 : very strong or tough ▪ I have a *cast-iron* stomach. [=I can eat anything spicy, hot, etc.] ▪ a *cast-iron* will
3 *Brit* : not likely to fail or be broken ▪ You had better have a *cast-iron* [=(*US*) *airtight*] excuse for missing the meeting. ▪ a *cast-iron* promise

cas·tle /'kæsəl, *Brit* 'kɑ:səl/ *noun, pl* **cas·tles** [*count*]
1 : a large building usually with high, thick walls and towers that was built in the past to protect against attack
2 *informal* : a large expensive house ▪ Millionaires built their *castles* along the lake.
3 : a piece in the game of chess that looks like a castle tower : ROOK — see picture at CHESS
castle in the air *also* ***castle in Spain*** : a dream, plan, or idea that can never become real — usually plural ▪ He's just ***building castles in the air*** if he thinks he can open a restaurant without any money.

cast·off /'kæst,ɑ:f, *Brit* 'kɑ:st,ɒf/ *noun, pl* **-offs** [*count*] : something or someone that is thrown out or replaced ▪ The books were mostly *castoffs* from other schools. ▪ He assembled a bunch of *castoffs* [=players fired by other teams] into a good football team. ▪ a social *castoff* [=*reject*] — see also *cast off* 1 at ¹CAST

cast–off /'kæst,ɑ:f, *Brit* 'kɑ:st,ɒf/ *adj* : thrown or given away ▪ She had to wear her sister's *cast-off* clothes. ▪ *cast-off* players — see also *cast off* 1 at ¹CAST

castor *Brit spelling of* CASTER

cas·tor oil /'kæstɚ-, *Brit* 'kɑ:stər-/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a thick oil made from a tropical plant and used in the past as a medicine

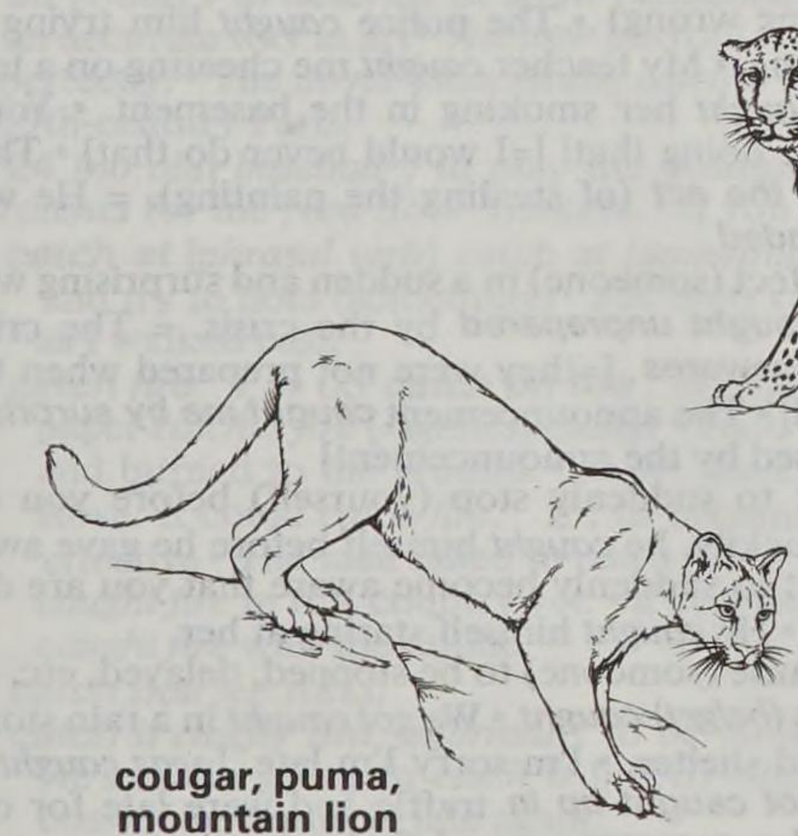
cas·trate /'kæ,streɪt, *Brit* kæ'streɪt/ *verb* **-trates**; **-trat·ed**; **-trat·ing** [+ *obj*] : to remove the testes of (a person or animal) ▪ Farmers *castrated* the bull calf. ▪ a *castrated* horse
– **cas·tra·tion** /kæ'streɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*]

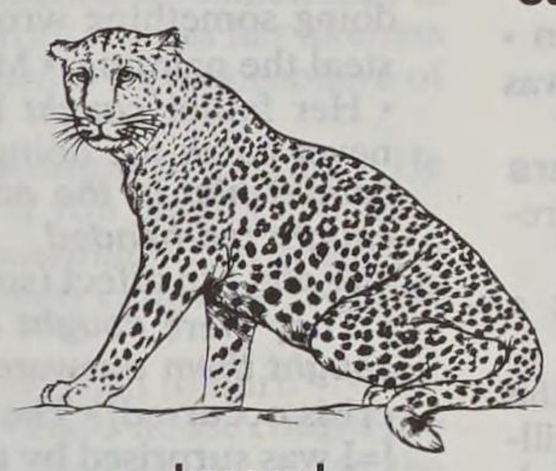
ca·su·al /'kæʒəwəl/ *adj*
1 *always used before a noun* : happening by chance : not planned or expected ▪ a *casual* encounter on the sidewalk
2 [*more* ~; *most* ~] : designed for or permitting ordinary dress, behavior, etc. : not formal ▪ *casual* clothes ▪ a *casual* restaurant ▪ The atmosphere at the meeting was quite *casual*.
✧ ***Casual days*** are days (such as ***casual Fridays***) when a company allows workers to dress in casual clothes.
3 [*more* ~; *most* ~] **a** : done without much thought, effort, or concern ▪ She takes a *casual* [=*nonchalant*] approach to her homework. ▪ He made a *casual* remark about her shoes. **b** : not involving a close or serious relationship ▪ *casual* sex ▪ They are only *casual* acquaintances. [=they know each other but not very well] ▪ Their relationship was *casual*. **c** : having some interest but not a lot : not serious ▪ He's a *casual* sports fan.
4 : happening at certain times but not on a regular basis ▪ She found only *casual* work.
– **ca·su·al·ly** *adj* ▪ I looked *casually* down at my watch. ▪ He was dressed *casually* in jeans and a sweatshirt. – **ca·su·al·ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

ca·su·al·ty /'kæʒəwəlti/ *noun, pl* **-ties** [*count*]
1 : a person who is hurt or killed during an accident, war, etc. ▪ a low number of *casualties* ▪ The army suffered/took/sustained heavy *casualties* [=many soldiers were killed or wounded] in the town. ▪ *casualty* rates [=the number of people or wounded killed each day]
2 : a person or thing that is harmed, lost, or destroyed : VICTIM — usually + *of* ▪ The tree was a *casualty of* the high winds. ▪ The factory was a *casualty of* the depression.

cat /'kæt/ *noun, pl* **cats** [*count*]
1 a : a small animal that is related to lions and tigers and that is often kept by people as a pet ▪ I have two dogs and a *cat*. — often used before another noun ▪ *cat* food — see also TOMCAT **b** : a lion, tiger, leopard, or similar wild animal
2 *old-fashioned slang* : a man ▪ He's a cool *cat*. ▪ You *cats* are crazy! — see also FAT CAT, HEPCAT, SCAREDY-CAT
Cat got your tongue? *informal* — used to ask someone why he or she is not saying anything ▪ "You've been unusually quiet tonight," she said. "What's the matter? *Cat got your tongue*?"
curiosity killed the cat see CURIOSITY
fight like cats and dogs see ¹FIGHT
let the cat out of the bag : to reveal a secret ▪ We wanted

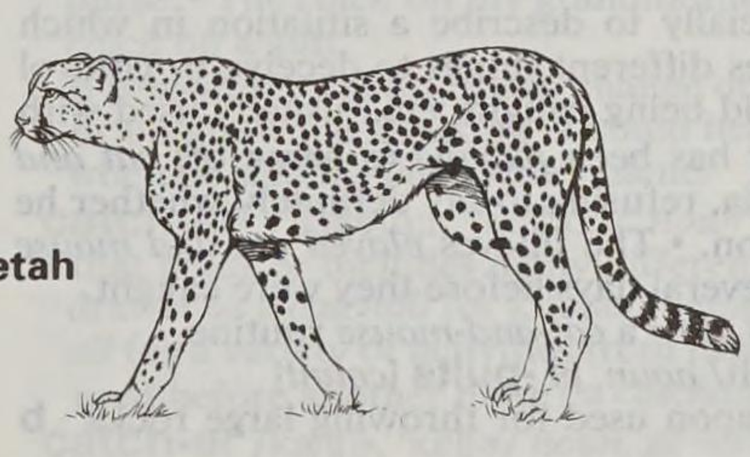
cat

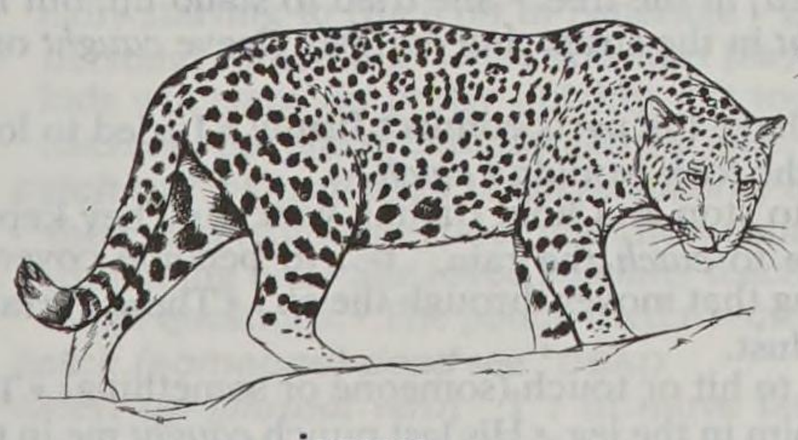

cougar, puma, mountain lion

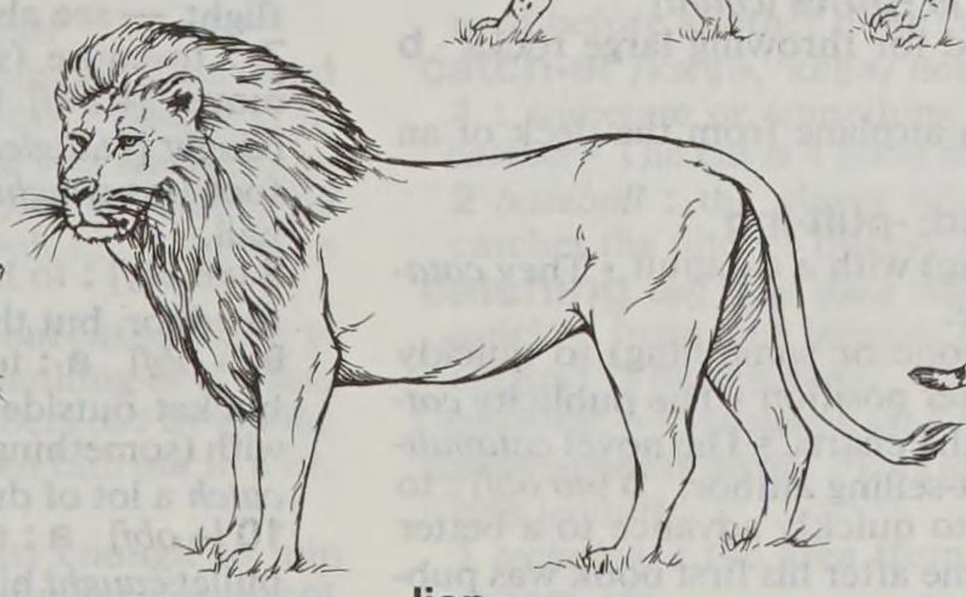

leopard


lynx

domestic cat


cheetah


jaguar


lion


tiger

the party to be a surprise, but he *let the cat out of the bag*.

like something the cat brought/dragged/drug in ✧ If you look or feel *like something the cat brought/dragged/drug in*, you are very dirty or untidy. ▪ I need to take a shower—I look *like something the cat dragged in*.

like the cat that ate/got/swallowed the canary (*US*) *or Brit* ***like the cat that got the cream*** — used to say that someone looks very proud or satisfied about something he or she has done ▪ After pointing out his teacher's mistake, he smiled *like the cat that ate the canary*.

Look what the cat dragged in! *informal* — used to call attention to someone who has entered the room or area

rain cats and dogs see ²RAIN

the cat's meow (*US*) *or* ***the cat's pajamas*** *or Brit* ***the cat's whiskers*** *old-fashioned* + *informal* — used to say that someone or something is very appealing ▪ That car is *the cat's meow*. [=I really like that car] ▪ Going to the movies was *the cat's pajamas* when I was a kid.

– **cat•like** /ˈkætˌlaɪk/ *adj* ▪ a *catlike* appearance ▪ *catlike* movements

cat•a•clysm /ˈkætəˌklɪzəm/ *noun, pl* **-clysms** : something that causes great destruction, violence, etc. [*count*] floods, earthquakes, and other *cataclysms* ▪ The country barely survived the *cataclysm* of war. [*noncount*] The revolution could result in worldwide *cataclysm*.

– **cat•a•clys•mic** /ˌkætəˈklɪzmɪk/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ a *cataclysmic* event

cat•a•comb /ˈkætəˌkoʊm, *Brit* ˈkætəˌku:m/ *noun, pl* **-combs** [*count*] : an underground place where people are buried — usually plural ▪ ancient Roman *catacombs*

¹cat•a•log (*chiefly US*) *or* **cat•a•logue** /ˈkætəˌlɑ:g/ *noun, pl* **-logs** *or* **-logues** [*count*]

1 : a book containing a list of things that you can buy, use, etc., and often pictures ▪ She ordered clothes from a (mail-order) *catalog*. ▪ a college/course *catalog* — see also CARD CATALOG

2 : a group of similar or related things ▪ The band played many songs from their *catalog* of hits. ▪ a *catalog* of failures/disasters/mistakes

²catalog (*US*) *or* **catalogue** *verb* **-logs** *or* **-logues**; **-loged** *or* **-logued**; **-log•ing** *or* **-logu•ing** [+ *obj*] : to list or describe (something) in an organized way ▪ They use the computer to *catalog* books. ▪ The chart *catalogs* the results of each test.

– **cat•a•log•er** (*US*) *or* **cat•a•logu•er** *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] ▪ a book *cataloger*

cat•a•lyst /ˈkætələst/ *noun, pl* **-lysts** [*count*]

1 *technical* : a substance that causes a chemical reaction to happen more quickly

2 : a person or event that quickly causes change or action ▪ The bombing attack was the *catalyst* for war. ▪ She was proud to be a *catalyst* for reform in the government.

cat•a•lyt•ic converter /ˌkætəˈlɪtɪk-/ *noun, pl* ~ **-ers** [*count*] : a part of an automobile exhaust system that removes harmful chemicals — see picture at CAR

cat•a•ma•ran /ˌkætəməˈræn/ *noun, pl* **-rans** [*count*] : a boat with two hulls — see picture at BOAT

cat and mouse *noun* [*noncount*] : behavior that is like the way a cat chases a mouse or plays with a mouse before killing it — used especially to describe a situation in which someone says or does different things to deceive or control other people, to avoid being caught, etc.; usually used with *play* ▪ The governor has been *playing* (a game of) *cat and mouse* with the media, refusing to say definitely whether he will run for reelection. ▪ The thieves *played cat and mouse* with the police for several days before they were caught.

– **cat–and–mouse** *adj* ▪ a *cat-and-mouse* routine

¹cat•a•pult /ˈkætəˌpʌlt/ *noun, pl* **-pults** [*count*]

1 a : an ancient weapon used for throwing large rocks **b** *Brit* : SLINGSHOT

2 : a device for launching an airplane from the deck of an aircraft carrier

²catapult *verb* **-pults**; **-pult•ed**; **-pult•ing**

1 [+ *obj*] : to throw (something) with a catapult ▪ They *catapulted* rocks toward the castle.

2 a [+ *obj*] : to cause (someone or something) to quickly move up or ahead or to a better position ▪ The publicity *catapulted* her CD to the top of the charts. ▪ The novel *catapulted* him from unknown to best-selling author. **b** [*no obj*] : to quickly move up or ahead : to quickly advance to a better position ▪ He *catapulted* to fame after his first book was published. ▪ Her career was *catapulting* ahead.

cat•a•ract /ˈkætəˌrækt/ *noun, pl* **-racts** [*count*]

1 *medical* : a condition in which a part of your eye (called the lens) becomes cloudy and you cannot see well — often plural ▪ His grandmother developed *cataracts*.

2 *literary* : a large waterfall

ca•tarrh /kəˈtɑ:ɚ/ *noun, pl* **-tarrhs** [*count*] *medical* : a condition in which the nose and air passages become filled with mucus

ca•tas•tro•phe /kəˈtæstrəfi/ *noun, pl* **-phes** : a terrible disaster [*count*] The oil spill was an environmental *catastrophe*. ▪ Experts fear a humanitarian *catastrophe* if food isn't delivered to the refugees soon. ▪ a global/nuclear/economic *catastrophe* [*noncount*] an area on the brink of *catastrophe*

– **cat•a•stroph•ic** /ˌkætəˈstrɑ:fɪk/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ The effect of the war on the economy was *catastrophic*. ▪ a *catastrophic* drought – **cat•a•stroph•i•cal•ly** /ˌkætəˈstrɑ:fɪkli/ *adv* ▪ The dam failed *catastrophically*, flooding the entire valley.

cat•bird seat /ˈkætˌbɚd-/ *noun*

(sitting) in the catbird seat *US, informal* : in a very good position ▪ The team was *(sitting) in the catbird seat* after winning 10 games in a row.

cat burglar *noun, pl* ~ **-lars** [*count*] : a thief who enters buildings by climbing up a wall and going in through a window without being seen

cat•call /ˈkætˌkɑ:l/ *noun, pl* **-calls** [*count*] : a sound or noise that someone (such as an audience member) makes toward a speaker, performer, athlete, etc., that he or she does not like ▪ The pitcher heard angry *catcalls* as he walked off the field.

¹catch /ˈkætʃ, ˈkɛtʃ/ *verb* **catch•es**; **caught** /ˈkɑ:t/; **catch•ing**

1 a : to use your hands to stop and hold (an object that is moving through the air) [+ *obj*] *Catch* the ball and throw it to first base. ▪ She *caught* the ball with one hand. ▪ I dropped the book but managed to *catch* it before it hit the ground. [*no obj*] I'll throw you the keys. Ready? *Catch*! **b** [+ *obj*] : to use your hands to grasp and hold onto (someone or something) ▪ He *caught* [=*grabbed*, *seized*] her by the wrist. ▪ He ***caught hold of*** her wrist.

2 [+ *obj*] : to capture and not allow (a person, animal, or fish) to escape ▪ The police are working hard to *catch* the criminals and put them in jail. ▪ "I bet you can't *catch* me!" she yelled to her brother. ▪ I once *caught* 10 fish in a single day. ▪ In the summer, we would *catch* fireflies and put them in jars. ▪ *catching* mice in traps ▪ lions *catching* their prey

3 [+ *obj*] **a** : to manage to find, meet, or reach (someone) at a particular time or in a particular state or condition ▪ I *caught* her just as she was leaving for work. ▪ I'm afraid you've *caught* me at a bad time. **b** : to find (someone who is doing something wrong) ▪ The police *caught* him trying to steal the painting. ▪ My teacher *caught* me cheating on a test. ▪ Her father *caught* her smoking in the basement. ▪ You'd never *catch* me doing that! [=I would never do that] ▪ They ***caught him in the act*** (of stealing the painting). = He was ***caught red-handed***.

4 [+ *obj*] : to affect (someone) in a sudden and surprising way ▪ They were ***caught unprepared*** by the crisis. = The crisis ***caught them unawares***. [=they were not prepared when the crisis occurred] ▪ The announcement ***caught me by surprise***. [=I was surprised by the announcement]

5 [+ *obj*] **a** : to suddenly stop (yourself) before you do something ▪ Luckily, he *caught* himself before he gave away the secret. **b** : to suddenly become aware that you are doing something ▪ He *caught* himself staring at her.

6 [+ *obj*] : to cause (someone) to be stopped, delayed, etc. — usually used as *(be/get) caught* ▪ We *got caught* in a rain storm and had to find shelter. ▪ I'm sorry I'm late. I *was caught* in traffic. ▪ We ***got caught up in*** traffic and were late for our flight. — see also CAUGHT UP IN 1 (below)

7 : to cause (something) to become stuck and unable to move [+ *obj*] I *caught* my sleeve on a nail. ▪ The kite got *caught* [=*tangled*] in the tree. ▪ She tried to stand up, but her foot was *caught* in the strap. [*no obj*] My sleeve *caught* on a nail.

8 [*no obj*] : to have the parts connect firmly ▪ I tried to lock the door, but the lock wouldn't *catch*.

9 [+ *obj*] **a** : to stop and hold (falling water) ▪ They kept a bucket outside to *catch* the rain. **b** : to become covered with (something that moves through the air) ▪ These curtains *catch* a lot of dust.

10 [+ *obj*] **a** : to hit or touch (someone or something) ▪ The bullet *caught* him in the leg. ▪ His last punch *caught* me in the jaw. ▪ Isn't it beautiful the way the setting sun *catches* the tips

of the trees? **b** : to be hit or touched by (something) ▪ He *caught* a bullet in the leg. ▪ The tips of the trees *catch* the light as the sun sets.

11 [+ *obj*] : to become affected with (a sickness or disease) ▪ We both *caught* [=*contracted*] the flu. ▪ I seem to *catch* a cold every winter. ▪ children *catching* colds from each other ✧ When people say that you will ***catch your death (of cold)***, they mean that you will become sick or catch a very bad cold. ▪ It's freezing! You'll *catch your death* if you go out without a coat! — see also CATCHING

12 [+ *obj*] : to begin to feel excitement or interest about something ▪ I haven't *caught* the holiday spirit yet this year. ▪ People are getting really interested in the sport. The whole country is starting to ***catch the fever***.

13 [+ *obj*] : to attract and hold (someone's attention, interest, etc.) ▪ I tried to *catch* the waiter's attention, but I guess he didn't see me. ▪ The show is more likely to *catch* the interest of an older audience. ▪ Her books have ***caught the imagination*** of children from around the world. [=children find her books very exciting and enjoyable] ✧ If someone or something ***catches your eye***, you notice that person or thing. ▪ There was one dress in particular that *caught my eye*. — see also EYE-CATCHING

14 [+ *obj*] : to see, smell, or notice (something) ▪ I *caught* [=*got*] a faint whiff of her perfume. ▪ While you're in Hollywood, you might ***catch a glimpse*** of some movie stars. ▪ I ***caught sight*** of his red shirt and started calling to him.

15 [+ *obj*] *informal* : to hear or understand (something) ▪ What was that again? I didn't quite *catch* [=*hear, get*] what you said. ▪ I didn't *catch* your name. ▪ Do you ***catch my drift***? [=do you understand what I mean?]

16 [+ *obj*] : to become aware of (something, such as an illness) ▪ The disease is curable if *caught* [=*detected*] early.

17 [+ *obj*] : to have or do (something) ▪ You can *catch* [=*take*] a quick nap on the train.

18 [+ *obj*] : to get (something) through effort ▪ I managed to *catch* [=*get*] a ride into town with some friends.

19 [+ *obj*] *informal* : to meet with (someone) ▪ "See you soon." "Yup. ***Catch you later***."

20 [+ *obj*] : to move fast enough to be next to or in front of (someone) ▪ She *caught* [=*overtook*] the leader in the final meters of the race. ▪ He left before I did so I had to hurry to *catch* him. [=to catch up with him]

21 [+ *obj*] : to get on a bus, train, etc., before it leaves ▪ If you miss the first bus, you can *catch* the next one in 15 minutes. ▪ If you'll excuse me, I have a plane to *catch*.

22 [+ *obj*] : to see or hear (a show, game, etc.) ▪ I only *caught* the last few minutes of the game. ▪ Did you *catch* the show on Channel 4 last night?

23 [+ *obj*] : to describe or show (someone or something) in an accurate way in art ▪ The new portrait *catches* her likeness perfectly. ▪ The novel successfully *catches* the atmosphere of 19th-century Paris.

24 [*no obj*] *baseball* : to play the position of catcher ▪ He *catches* for the New York Yankees. ▪ If you pitch, I'll *catch*.

catch at [*phrasal verb*] ***catch at (something)*** : to reach for and try to hold (something) ▪ The baby *caught at* my dress as I walked past.

catch fire **1** *or US* ***catch on fire*** : to begin to burn ▪ Newspaper *catches fire* [=*ignites*] easily. ▪ Their house *caught fire* and burned to the ground. ▪ Don't leave the towel on the stove. It could *catch fire*. **2** : to become very popular or effective ▪ The idea failed to *catch fire*. ▪ The singer hasn't *caught fire* in this country yet. ▪ a new technology that has *caught fire* with the public

catch hell see HELL

catch it *chiefly Brit, informal* : to be punished or scolded ▪ He's really going to *catch it* [=*(US) catch hell*] (from his boss) if he comes in late again!

catch lightning in a bottle see LIGHTNING

catch on [*phrasal verb*] **1** : to become popular ▪ This trend is *catching on* with/among college students. ▪ Soccer is finally starting to *catch on* in America. **2** : to learn or understand something ▪ Once you start playing the game, the kids will *catch on* pretty quickly. ▪ It took her a while to *catch on*, but she eventually got the joke.

catch out [*phrasal verb*] ***catch (someone) out*** *chiefly Brit* : to show that (someone) does not know something or is doing something bad ▪ She loved *catching* teachers *out* by asking tough questions. ▪ The police tried to *catch* him *out* in a lie.

catch (someone) dead see DEAD

catch up [*phrasal verb*] **1** : to move fast enough to join someone or something that is in front of you ▪ They went so fast we couldn't *catch up*. — often + *with* or *to* ▪ Slow down so that I can *catch up with* you. ▪ She ran as fast as she could, but she couldn't *catch up with* her brother. = *(US)* She couldn't *catch up to* him. — often used figuratively ▪ In order to *catch up with* its competitors in the industry, the company will need to start using more advanced technologies. ▪ She missed several months of school and may never *catch up with* the other children in her class. = *(US)* She may never *catch up to* them. **2** : to learn about recent events ▪ We haven't seen each other in such a long time; we've got lots of *catching up* to do! ▪ *catching up* with old friends — often + *on* ▪ He reads the newspaper on Sunday mornings to *catch up on* the news. **3** ***catch up on (something)*** : to do (something) that you could have done earlier ▪ She has to *catch up on* her homework. ▪ I hope to *catch up on* some much-needed sleep this weekend. **4** ***catch (someone) up*** *Brit* : to join someone who is ahead of you ▪ He was ahead of me for most of the race, but I *caught him up* [=I caught up with him] at the end. ▪ Go on ahead: I'll *catch you up* later. **5** ***catch up with (someone)*** **a** : to begin to affect (someone) usually in a bad way ▪ All those late nights are really starting to *catch up with* me! ▪ Old age *catches up with* everyone in the end. **b** : to find and arrest (someone) ▪ The police eventually *caught up with* him in Texas. **c** *informal* : to meet with (someone) ▪ I've got to go. I'll *catch up with* you later.

catch your breath see BREATH

caught in the middle see [2]MIDDLE

caught short **1** : not having enough of something ▪ Don't be *caught short*! Make sure you stock up on supplies before you set out on your trip. **2** *Brit, informal* : having a sudden urge to use the toilet

caught up in **1** : involved in (a difficult or confusing situation) ▪ Several members of Congress were *caught up in* the scandal. ▪ How did you get *caught up in* this mess? — see also [1]CATCH 6 (above) **2** : excited about something and having trouble thinking about anything else ▪ Everyone was *caught up in* the excitement. ▪ Try not to get too *caught up in* the moment.

– **catch•able** /ˈkætʃəbəl, ˈkɛtʃəbəl/ *adj* ▪ a *catchable* ball

[2]catch *noun, pl* **catch•es**

1 [*count*] : a hidden problem that makes something more complicated or difficult to do — usually singular ▪ The phone only costs $20, but there's a *catch*: you have to sign a two-year contract with the phone company. ▪ He said he would let me borrow his car, but I knew there had to be a *catch*. ▪ What's/Where's the *catch*?

2 a [*count*] : the act of stopping a moving object (such as a ball) and holding it in your hands : the act of catching something ▪ Great *catch*! ▪ The shortstop made a tough *catch*. **b** [*noncount*] : a game in which two or more people throw and catch a ball ▪ She used to play *catch* with her dad. ▪ Let's play a game of *catch*.

3 [*count*] : an amount of fish that has been caught ▪ a *catch* of about 20 fish ▪ She ordered the ***catch of the day***. [=the fish offered on a particular day at a restaurant]

4 [*count*] *old-fashioned* : a person who would be very desirable as a husband or wife ▪ He was an excellent *catch*.

5 [*count*] : something that holds an object or stops the parts of an object from moving ▪ She fastened the *catch* on her purse. ▪ The *catch* on my grandmother's pin broke. ▪ a safety *catch* on a gun

6 [*singular*] : a short, sharp change or stop in a person's voice or breath while speaking ▪ I could hear the *catch* in his voice when he said his dead wife's name.

catch•all /ˈkætʃˌɑːl, ˈkɛtʃˌɑːl/ *noun* [*singular*] : something that holds or includes many different things ▪ They used the drawer as a *catchall* for kitchen items. ▪ "The arts" is a *catchall* for a variety of activities from painting to music. — often used before another noun ▪ a *catchall* phrase/term

catch•er /kætʃɚ, ˈkɛtʃɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

1 : someone or something that catches something ▪ a dog *catcher* ▪ The cat is a good mouse *catcher*.

2 *baseball* : the player who plays behind home plate and catches the pitches thrown by the pitcher

catching *adj, not used before a noun* : able to be passed quickly from one person or animal to another : CONTAGIOUS ▪ "I have a cold." "Is it *catching*?" ▪ His enthusiasm is *catching*. — see also EYE-CATCHING

catch•ment area /ˈkætʃmənt-, ˈkɛtʃmənt-/ *noun, pl* ~ **areas** [*count*]

1 *technical* : the area from which water flows into a river, stream, etc.

2 *chiefly Brit* : the area that a school, hospital, etc., provides a service to

catch•phrase /'kæʧ,freɪz, 'kɛʧ,freɪz/ *noun, pl* **-phras•es** [*count*] : a word or phrase that is easy to remember and is commonly used to represent or describe a person, group, idea, etc. ▪ popular *catchphrases* like "politically correct" ▪ The politician asked his writers to come up with new *catchphrases*. [=*slogans*]

catch–22 *or* **Catch–22** /'kæʧ,twɛnti'tu:, 'kɛʧ,twɛnti'tu:/ *noun, pl* **-22's** *or* **-22s** [*count*] : a difficult situation for which there is no easy or possible solution ▪ I'm in a *catch-22*: to get the job I need experience, but how do I get experience if I can't get the job? — often used before another noun ▪ a *catch-22* dilemma/situation

catch–up /'kæʧ,ʌp, 'kɛʧ,ʌp/ *noun*

play catch-up : to try to reach the same position, score, etc., as a competitor after you have fallen behind ▪ The team fell behind in the second inning and has had to *play catch-up* ever since. ▪ The company has been trying to *play* a difficult game of *catch-up* ever since its competitor introduced the new product. — see also *catch up* at ¹CATCH

catch•word /'kæʧ,wəd, 'kɛʧ,wəd/ *noun, pl* **-words** [*count*] : CATCHPHRASE

catchy /'kæʧi, 'kɛʧi/ *adj* **catch•i•er**; **-est** : appealing and easy to remember ▪ I can't think of a *catchy* name/title for my blog. ▪ The new slogan isn't as *catchy* as the old one. ▪ a *catchy* song/tune

cat•e•chism /'kætə,kɪzəm/ *noun, pl* **-chisms**

1 [*noncount*] : a collection of questions and answers that are used to teach people about the Christian religion ▪ They went to school to learn their *catechism*. ▪ He taught *catechism* at Sunday school.

2 [*count*] : a book that explains the beliefs of the Christian religion by using a list of questions and answers

cat•e•gor•i•cal /,kætə'gorɪkəl/ *also* **cat•e•gor•ic** /,kætə'gorɪk/ *adj* : said in a very strong, clear, and definite way ▪ He issued a *categorical* denial about his involvement in the deal. ▪ a *categorical* statement

– **cat•e•gor•i•cal•ly** /,kætə'gorɪkli/ *adv* ▪ She *categorically* denied the accusation. ▪ The statement is *categorically* false/untrue.

cat•e•go•rize *also Brit* **cat•e•go•rise** /'kætɪgə,raɪz/ *verb* **-riz•es**; **-rized**; **-riz•ing** [+ *obj*] : to put (someone or something) into a group of similar people or things : to put (people or things) into categories ▪ This software lets you *categorize* your photographs in many different ways. ▪ Would you *categorize* [=*classify*] this book as science fiction? ▪ Their opinions can be *categorized* as conservative. ▪ Birds are *categorized* by type in this field guide.

– **cat•e•go•ri•za•tion** *also Brit* **cat•e•go•ri•sa•tion** /,kætɪgərə'zeɪʃən, *Brit* ,kætɪgə,raɪ'zeɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count, noncount*]

cat•e•go•ry /'kætə,gori, *Brit* 'kætəgri/ *noun, pl* **-ries** [*count*] : a group of people or things that are similar in some way ▪ The cars belong to the same *category*. ▪ Taxpayers fall into one of several *categories*. ▪ She competed for the award in her age *category*.

ca•ter /'keɪtɚ/ *verb* **-ters**; **-tered**; **-ter•ing** : to provide food and drinks at a party, meeting, etc., especially as a job [*no obj*] The restaurant *caters* for parties/banquets/receptions. [+ *obj*] A local restaurant *catered* the banquet/meal/reception. ▪ The awards ceremony will be a *catered* event/affair.

cater to (*chiefly US*) *or chiefly Brit* ***cater for*** [*phrasal verb*] ***cater to/for (someone or something)*** : to provide what is wanted or needed by (someone or something) ▪ The inn *caters* exclusively *to* foreign tourists. ▪ The library *caters to* [=*serves*] scientists. ▪ That store *caters to* middle-class taste. ▪ The hotel *caters to* your every need. [=the hotel provides everything that you need] ▪ (*disapproving*) As a child he was spoiled by parents who *catered to* his every need.

– **ca•ter•er** /'keɪtɚɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] ▪ a successful cook and *caterer* ▪ The party was serviced by the best *caterer* in the area. – **catering** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ Who did the *catering* for the party? ▪ She runs a *catering* business.

cat•er•cor•ner /'kæti,koɚnɚ/ *adv, US* : KITTY-CORNER

cat•er•pil•lar /'kætɚ,pɪlɚ/ *noun, pl* **-lars** [*count*] : a small creature that is like a worm with many legs and that changes to become a butterfly or moth

cat•er•waul /'kætɚ,wɑ:l/ *verb* **-wauls**; **-wauled**; **-waul•ing** [*no obj*]

1 : to make a very loud and unpleasant sound ▪ Some animal was *caterwauling* in my backyard last night.

2 : to protest or complain noisily ▪ He continues to *caterwaul* about having to take the blame.

– **caterwaul** *noun, pl* **-wauls** [*count*]



caterpillar

cat•fight /'kæt,faɪt/ *noun, pl* **-fights** [*count*] *informal* : an angry fight or argument between two women

cat•fish /'kæt,fɪʃ/ *noun, pl* **cat•fish** [*count, noncount*] : a type of fish that has a large head and long thin parts that look like a cat's whiskers around its mouth — see color picture on page C8

cat•gut /'kæt,gʌt/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a tough cord made from the intestines of animals (such as sheep) and used as strings for musical instruments, tennis rackets, etc.

ca•thar•sis /kə'θɑɚsɪs/ *noun, formal* : the act or process of releasing a strong emotion (such as pity or fear) especially by expressing it in an art form [*noncount*] Acting is a means of *catharsis* for her. [*singular*] Painting/music/writing is a *catharsis* for me.

– **ca•thar•tic** /kə'θɑɚtɪk/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ a *cathartic* experience

ca•the•dral /kə'θi:drəl/ *noun, pl* **-drals** [*count*] : the main church of an area that is headed by a bishop

cathedral ceiling *noun, pl* ~ **-ings** [*count*] : a high ceiling that has two sides that slant downwards from a pointed top

Cath•er•ine wheel /'kæθrɪn-/ *noun, pl* ~ **wheels** [*count*] *Brit* : PINWHEEL 2

cath•e•ter /'kæθətɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ters** [*count*] *medical* : a thin tube that is put into the body to remove or inject a liquid or to keep a passage open

– **cath•e•ter•i•za•tion** *also Brit* **cath•e•ter•i•sa•tion** /,kæθətərə'zeɪʃən, *Brit* ,kæθətə,raɪ'zeɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*noncount*] The patient underwent cardiac *catheterization*. [*count*] The surgeon has performed hundreds of *catheterizations* over the years.

cath•ode /'kæ,θoʊd/ *noun, pl* **-odes** [*count*] *technical* : the part of an electrical device (such as a battery) where electrons enter — compare ANODE

cathode–ray tube *noun, pl* ~ **tubes** [*count*] : a large tube that shows a picture on a screen (such as a television or computer screen) — abbr. *CRT*

cath•o•lic /'kæθlɪk/ *adj*

1 ***Catholic*** : of or relating to the Roman Catholic Church ▪ a *Catholic* bishop/nun/priest ▪ My son goes to a local *Catholic* school. [=a school run by the Roman Catholic Church]

2 *formal* : including many different things ▪ She is a novelist who is *catholic* in her interests. ▪ He has *catholic* tastes in art and music. [=he likes many different things in art and music]

Cath•o•lic /'kæθlɪk/ *noun, pl* **-lics** [*count*] : a person who is a member of the Roman Catholic Church

Ca•thol•i•cism /kə'θɑ:lə,sɪzəm/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the Roman Catholic religion ▪ He converted to *Catholicism*.

cat•house /'kæt,haʊs/ *noun, pl* **-hous•es** [*count*] *US slang* : a place where prostitutes are available : BROTHEL

cat•kin /'kætkən/ *noun, pl* **-kins** [*count*] : a bunch of flowers that grow in close rows on the branches of trees (such as willows or birches)

cat•nap /'kæt,næp/ *noun, pl* **-naps** [*count*] : a short period of sleep : a brief nap ▪ He took/had a *catnap*.

– **cat•nap** *verb* **-naps**; **-napped**; **-nap•ping** [*no obj*] ▪ She closed her eyes to *catnap* while her friend drove the car.

cat•nip /'kæt,nɪp/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a type of mint that has a strong smell which is attractive to cats

CAT scan /'kæt-/ *noun, pl* ~ **scans** [*count*] *medical* : a picture of the inside of a part of your body that is made by a computerized machine — called also *CT scan*

– **CAT scanner** *noun, pl* ~ **-ners** [*count*]

cat's cradle *noun*

1 [*noncount*] : a game played with a string that is wrapped around your fingers in complex patterns

2 [*singular*] : something that is very complicated ▪ a *cat's cradle* of government regulations

cat's–eye /'kæts,aɪ/ *noun, pl* **-eyes** [*count*]

1 : a jewel that has a pale stripe running down its middle which makes it look like the eye of a cat

2 *US* : a marble with round circles that look like eyes

Cats•eye /'kæts,aɪ/ *trademark, Brit* — used for an object

that is placed on the surface of a road and which reflects light from a car's headlights to make the road easier to see

cat•suit /ˈkætˌsu:t/ *noun, pl* **-suits** [*count*] : a tight piece of clothing that covers the body and legs and sometimes the arms

cat•sup /ˈkɛʧəp/ *noun* [*noncount*] *US* : KETCHUP

cat•tail /ˈkætˌteɪl/ *noun, pl* **-tails** [*count*] *US* : a tall plant that has long flat leaves and that grows in wet areas — called also (*Brit*) *bulrush*

cat•tery /ˈkætəri/ *noun, pl* **-ter•ies** [*count*] *chiefly Brit* : a place where cats are kept while their owners are away — compare KENNEL

cat•tle /ˈkætl/ *noun* [*plural*] : cows, bulls, or steers that are kept on a farm or ranch for meat or milk ▪ a herd of *cattle* ▪ His family used to raise *cattle*. ▪ The people in the crowd were treated like *cattle* as they tried to leave the stadium. — often used before another noun ▪ *cattle* feed ▪ a *cattle* herd ▪ the *cattle* industry ▪ My uncle has a *cattle* ranch.

cattle call *noun, pl* ~ **calls** [*count*] *US, informal* : an audition for actors in a movie, television show, etc.

cattle guard *noun, pl* ~ **guards** [*count*] *US* : a set of bars placed over a shallow hole that is used to stop cattle from crossing a road — called also (*Brit*) *cattle grid*

cat•tle•man /ˈkætlmən/ *noun, pl* **-men** /-mən/ [*count*] *chiefly US* : a person who raises or takes care of cattle

cattle prod *noun, pl* ~ **prods** [*count*] : a device that is used to make cattle move by giving them an electric shock

cat•ty /ˈkæti/ *adj* **cat•ti•er**; **-est** *disapproving* : unkind or critical — used especially to describe a comment made by a woman ▪ She said something *catty* about the way they were dressed. ▪ *catty* comments/remarks

– **cat•ti•ly** /ˈkætəli/ *adv* – **cat•ti•ness** /ˈkætinəs/ *noun* [*noncount*]

cat•ty–cor•ner /ˈkæti,koɚnɚ/ *or* **cat•ty–cor•nered** /ˈkæti,koɚnɚd/ *adv, US* : KITTY-CORNER

CATV *abbr* cable television

cat•walk /ˈkætˌwɑ:k/ *noun, pl* **-walks** [*count*]
1 : a narrow structure for people to walk on along a bridge or high up on the side of a building
2 : the raised structure that models walk along in a fashion show

Cau•ca•sian /kɑˈkeɪʒən, *Brit* kɔˈkeɪziən/ *noun, pl* **-sians** [*count*] : a person who has white or pale skin : a white person ▪ The disease is largely associated with *Caucasians*.

– **Caucasian** *adj* ▪ The police were looking for a *Caucasian* [=*white*] male.

[1]cau•cus /ˈkɑ:kəs/ *noun, pl* **-cus•es** [*count*]
1 : a meeting of members of a political party for the purpose of choosing candidates for an election ▪ a presidential *caucus* [=a meeting to decide who the party's candidate for the presidential election will be]
2 : a group of people (such as members of the U.S. Congress) who meet to discuss a particular issue or to work together for a shared, usually political goal ▪ the Congressional Arts *Caucus* ▪ the National Women's Political *Caucus*

[2]caucus *verb* **-cuses**; **-cused**; **-cus•ing** [*no obj*] *US* : to meet in a caucus ▪ Democrats/Republicans *caucused* last week to choose their candidates.

caught *past tense and past participle of* [1]CATCH

caul•dron *also US* **cal•dron** /ˈkɑ:ldrən/ *noun, pl* **-drons** [*count*] : a large pot ▪ a witch's *cauldron* — often used figuratively ▪ The area was a *cauldron* of violence. ▪ a seething *cauldron* of intense emotions

cau•li•flow•er /ˈkɑ:lɪˌflawɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count, noncount*] : a vegetable that is grown for its head of white flowers — see color picture on page C4

cauliflower ear *noun, pl* ~ **ears** [*count*] : an ear that is permanently damaged and swollen after being hit many times

caulk /ˈkɑ:k/ *verb* **caulks**; **caulked**; **caulk•ing** [+ *obj*] : to fill the cracks or holes in (something) with a substance that keeps out water ▪ He carefully *caulked* the area around the windows.

– **caulk** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ He filled the cracks with *caulk*.

caus•al /ˈkɑ:zəl/ *adj, formal*
1 : relating to or showing the cause of something ▪ No *causal* connection/relationship between the events was found. ▪ There is a *causal* link between poverty and crime.
2 : making something happen : causing something ▪ The *causal* [=*causative*] agent of the disease is a fungus.

– **caus•al•ly** *adv* ▪ The events are *causally* related.

cau•sal•i•ty /kɑˈzæləti/ *noun* [*noncount*] *formal*
1 : the relationship between something that happens or exists and the thing that causes it ▪ Scientists found no *causality* between the events.
2 : the idea that something can cause another thing to happen or exist ▪ the principle of *causality*

cau•sa•tion /kɑˈzeɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] *formal*
1 : the act or process of causing something to happen or exist ▪ the role of heredity in the *causation* of cancer
2 : the relationship between an event or situation and a possible reason or cause ▪ He claimed that the accident caused his injury, but the court ruled that he did not provide sufficient evidence of *causation*.

caus•a•tive /ˈkɑ:zətɪv/ *adj, formal* : making something happen or exist : causing something ▪ A virus was found to be the *causative* agent of smallpox. ▪ Speed was a *causative* factor in the accident. [=speed helped to cause the accident]

[1]cause /ˈkɑ:z/ *noun, pl* **caus•es**
1 [*count*] : something or someone that produces an effect, result, or condition : something or someone that makes something happen or exist ▪ His symptoms had no apparent physical *causes*. ▪ She is the *cause* of all their problems. ▪ He died of/from ***natural causes***. [=he died because of old age or an illness] — often + *of* ▪ The doctor determined the *cause of* death. ▪ The exact *cause of* the accident/fire is not known.
2 : a reason for doing or feeling something [*noncount*] The medicine was prescribed without good *cause*. — often + *for* ▪ There is some *cause for* concern. [=some reason to be concerned/worried] [*singular*] Their marriage was a *cause for* celebration. — see also PROBABLE CAUSE
3 [*count*] : something (such as an organization, belief, idea, or goal) that a group or people support or fight for ▪ I can support a *cause* that means something to me. ▪ I'm willing to donate money as long as it's for a good/worthy *cause*.

lost cause : a person or thing that is certain to fail ▪ She decided her acting career was a *lost cause*. ▪ I'm a *lost cause* when it comes to anything technical.

make/find common cause *formal* : to join together with someone in order to achieve a shared goal ▪ He has *made common cause* with political rivals to defeat the proposed new law.

[2]cause *verb* **causes**; **caused**; **caus•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to make (something) happen or exist : to be the cause of (something) ▪ He swerved and *caused* an accident. ▪ The flood *caused* great hardship. ▪ The illness is *caused* by a virus.
2 : to make (someone) feel, have, or do something ▪ The flood *caused* the town great hardship. ▪ You *caused* us a lot of extra work. — often followed by *to* + *verb* ▪ His boss *caused* him *to resign*. [=his boss made him resign] ▪ His nervous behavior *caused* me *to question* his innocence.

'cause /ˈkɑ:z, kəz/ *conj* : BECAUSE — used in informal speech ▪ "Why did he do that?" "*'Cause* I told him to."

cause cé•lè•bre *also* **cause ce•le•bre** /ˌkɑ:zsəˈlɛbrə/ *noun, pl* **causes cé•lè•bres** *also* **causes ce•le•bres** /ˌkɑz:səˈlɛbrə/ [*count*] *formal* : a legal case or an event that a lot of people become interested in — usually singular ▪ The case became a *cause célèbre* for/among environmentalists.

cause•way /ˈkɑ:zˌweɪ/ *noun, pl* **-ways** [*count*] : a raised road or path that goes across wet ground or water ▪ The island is linked by a *causeway* to the mainland.

caus•tic /ˈkɑ:stɪk/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : able to destroy or burn something by chemical action ▪ The chemical was so *caustic* that it ate through the pipes.
2 : very harsh and critical ▪ *caustic* film reviews ▪ She wrote a *caustic* report about the decisions that led to the crisis. ▪ *caustic* humor/wit

– **caus•ti•cal•ly** /ˈkɑ:stɪkli/ *adv*

caustic soda *noun* [*noncount*] *chiefly Brit* : LYE

cau•ter•ize *also Brit* **cau•ter•ise** /ˈkɑ:təˌraɪz/ *verb* **-iz•es**; **-ized**; **-iz•ing** [+ *obj*] *medical* : to burn (something, such as a wound) with heat or a chemical substance in order to destroy infected tissue ▪ The doctors *cauterized* the wound.

– **cau•ter•i•za•tion** *also Brit* **cau•ter•i•sa•tion** /ˌkɑ:tərəˈzeɪʃən, *Brit* ˌkɔ:təˌraɪˈzeɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*]

[1]cau•tion /ˈkɑ:ʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**
1 [*noncount*] : care taken to avoid danger or risk : a careful attitude or way of behaving ▪ You should use *caution* when operating the electric saw. ▪ He injected a note/word of *caution* in his talk. ▪ Her financial adviser urged *caution* before investing in the project. ▪ Investors should exercise *caution*. ▪ The roads are slippery: drive with extreme *caution*.
2 : a warning telling someone to be careful [*count*] Her

comments were intended as a *caution* to us to protect our property. [*noncount*] A ***note/word of caution*** be sure that the electricity is off before you install the ceiling fan.

3 [*count*] *Brit, law* : a spoken official warning given to someone who has done something illegal but has not committed a serious crime ▪ She was given a *caution* by the magistrate.

throw/fling/cast caution to the wind : to stop being careful and do something that is dangerous or that might result in failure ▪ After thinking about it for years, he finally *threw/flung/cast caution to the wind*, quit his job, and started his own company.

[2]caution *verb* **-tions; -tioned; -tion·ing**

1 : to warn or tell (someone) about a possible danger, problem, etc. [+ *obj*] She *cautioned* me not to decide too quickly. = She *cautioned* (me) that I shouldn't decide too quickly. ▪ Officials are *cautioning* that the war may continue for years. ▪ "Don't decide too quickly," she *cautioned*. [*no obj*] — + *against* ▪ I would *caution against* getting involved with him.

2 [+ *obj*] *Brit, law* : to give a caution to (someone) ▪ He was *cautioned* for speeding.

cau·tion·ary /ˈkɑːʃəˌneri, *Brit* ˈkɔːʃənri/ *adj* : giving a warning about a possible danger, problem, etc. ▪ The story is a *cautionary* tale of what can happen when greed takes over.

cau·tious /ˈkɑːʃəs/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : careful about avoiding danger or risk ▪ Any *cautious* tourist will guard her passport. ▪ You cannot be overly/too *cautious* when you're driving in snow. ▪ He answered the question with a *cautious* reply.

– **cau·tious·ly** *adv* [*more ~; most ~*] ▪ She *cautiously* moved down the dark hall. – **cau·tious·ness** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ They proceeded with *cautiousness*. [=*caution*]

cav·al·cade /ˌkævəlˈkeɪd/ *noun, pl* **-cades** [*count*]

1 : a line of riders, vehicles, etc., moving along in the same direction ▪ The *cavalcade* arrived at the hotel. ▪ a *cavalcade* of antique cars

2 *literary* : a series *of* related things ▪ the *cavalcade of* years ▪ a *cavalcade of* natural disasters

cav·a·lier /ˌkævəˈliɚ/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *disapproving* : having or showing no concern for something that is important or serious ▪ They are too *cavalier* in their treatment of others. ▪ The writer is very *cavalier* [=*careless*] about the truth. ▪ She has a *cavalier* attitude about/towards spending money. ▪ He has a *cavalier* disregard for the rights of others. – **cav·a·lier·ly** *adv* ▪ He *cavalierly* disregarded their advice.

cav·al·ry /ˈkævəlri/ *noun* : the part of an army that in the past had soldiers who rode horses and that now has soldiers who ride in vehicles or helicopters [*noncount*] *Cavalry* is used to perform reconnaissance. [*plural*] The *cavalry* were brought in to support the mission. — often used before another noun ▪ *cavalry* forces/officers/troops — compare INFANTRY

cav·al·ry·man /ˈkævəlrimən/ *noun, pl* **-men** /-mən/ [*count*] : a soldier who is in the cavalry

[1]cave /ˈkeɪv/ *noun, pl* **caves** [*count*] : a large hole that was formed by natural processes in the side of a cliff or hill or under the ground

[2]cave *verb* **caves; caved; cav·ing**

cave in [*phrasal verb*] **1 a** : to fall down or inward ▪ We need to keep the walls from *caving in*. [=*collapsing*] ▪ The roof *caved in* on them. **b** ***cave (something) in or cave in (something)*** : to cause (something) to fall down or inward ▪ The weight of the snow *caved in* the roof. **2** *informal* : to stop trying to resist or oppose something : to give in or submit to pressure ▪ We kept asking her to come and she finally *caved in*. ▪ He *caved in* to the pressure to resign. — sometimes used in U.S. English without *in* ▪ We kept asking her to come and she finally *caved*. — see also CAVE-IN

ca·ve·at /ˈkæviˌɑːt, *Brit* ˈkæviæt/ *noun, pl* **-ats** [*count*] *formal* : an explanation or warning that should be remembered when you are doing or thinking about something ▪ His investment advice comes with a *caveat*: that the stock market is impossible to predict with absolute accuracy.

ca·ve·at emp·tor /ˈkæviˌɑːtˈɛmptɚ/ *noun* [*noncount*] *law* : the principle that a person who buys something is responsible for making sure that it is in good condition, works properly, etc.

cave–in /ˈkeɪvˌɪn/ *noun, pl* **-ins** [*count*] : an occurrence in which something (such as the roof or walls of a building or cave) suddenly falls down or inward ▪ There are important safety procedures to prevent *cave-ins* in mines. ▪ They explored the area of the *cave-in*. — see also *cave in* at [2]CAVE

cave·man /ˈkeɪvˌmæn/ *noun, pl* **-men** /-mən/ [*count*]

1 : a person who lived in a cave in ancient times

2 *informal* : a man who acts in a very rude and aggressive way

cav·er /ˈkeɪvɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a person who explores caves : SPELUNKER

cav·ern /ˈkævɚn/ *noun, pl* **-erns** [*count*] : a large cave

cav·ern·ous /ˈkævɚnəs/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *of a building or room* : resembling a large cave : very large ▪ We toured the *cavernous* airplane hangar. ▪ The dance was held in a *cavernous* hall. ▪ a *cavernous* auditorium

cav·i·ar /ˈkæviˌɑɚ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the eggs of a large fish (such as the sturgeon) that are salted and eaten as food

cav·il /ˈkævəl/ *verb* **cav·ils**; *US* **cav·iled** *or Brit* **cav·illed**; *US* **cav·il·ing** *or Brit* **cav·il·ling** [*no obj*] *formal* : to complain about things that are not important ▪ I don't intend to *cavil* or compromise. ▪ A customer *caviled* about/over/at the price.

– **cavil** *noun, pl* **-ils** [*count*] The reviewer had only a few *cavils* [=small criticisms] about the book. [*noncount*] The need for these changes is ***beyond cavil.*** [=cannot be doubted or argued about]

cav·ing /ˈkeɪvɪŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the sport of exploring caves : SPELUNKING

cav·i·ty /ˈkævəti/ *noun, pl* **-ties** [*count*]

1 : a hole or space inside something ▪ Some birds nest in tree *cavities*. ▪ the abdominal/chest/nasal *cavity*

2 : a hole formed in a tooth by decay ▪ I had two *cavities* filled at the dentist's.

ca·vort /kəˈvoɚt/ *verb* **-vorts; -vort·ed; -vort·ing** [*no obj*]

1 : to jump or move around in a lively manner ▪ Otters *cavorted* in the stream.

2 : to spend time in an enjoyable and often wild or improper way — usually + *with* ▪ The governor has been criticized for *cavorting with* celebrities.

caw /ˈkɑː/ *noun, pl* **caws** [*count*] : the loud sound made by a crow or a similar bird

– **caw** *verb* **caws; cawed; caw·ing** [*no obj*] ▪ Crows *cawed* in the trees. – **cawing** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ I heard the *cawing* of a crow.

cay /ˈkiː, ˈkeɪ/ *noun, pl* **cays** [*count*] : a low island made of sand or coral

cay·enne pepper /ˌkaɪˈɛn-, ˌkeɪˈɛn-/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a red powder that is made from hot peppers and that is used as a spice to give a hot taste to food ▪ a dash/pinch of *cayenne pepper*

CB /ˌsiːˈbiː/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a range of radio frequencies that people and especially truck drivers use to talk to each other over short distances often while driving — often used before another noun ▪ a *CB* radio; *also* : a radio that uses this range of frequencies ▪ We heard the truckers talking on the *CB*. ✧ *CB* is an abbreviation of "citizens band."

CBS *abbr* Columbia Broadcasting System ✧ CBS is one of the major television networks in the U.S.

[1]cc *abbr* **1** cubic centimeter ▪ a 250*cc* engine **2** carbon copy — used to show that a copy of a business letter or an e-mail is also being sent to someone else ▪ to Meg Thomas, *cc* Ben Phipps

[2]cc /ˌsiːˈsiː/ *verb* **cc's; cc'd; cc'ing** [+ *obj*] : to send a copy of a business letter or an e-mail to someone in addition to the person addressed ▪ Please *cc* the letter to me. ▪ He *cc'd* the entire staff.

CCTV *abbr* closed-circuit television

[1]CD /ˌsiːˈdiː/ *noun, pl* **CDs** : a small plastic disk on which information (such as music or computer data) is recorded [*count*] The singer released her new *CD* [=a new set of songs recorded on CDs for people to buy] last month. ▪ a four-*CD* set ▪ The car stereo includes a *CD* player. [*noncount*] The band's early albums are now available on *CD*. — called also *compact disc* — compare [2]CD

[2]CD *noun, pl* **CDs** [*count*] : CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT — compare [1]CD

CD–ROM /ˌsiːˌdiːˈrɑːm/ *noun, pl* **-ROMs** : a small plastic disk on which large amounts of information (such as books, pictures, or computer programs) are stored in a form that cannot be changed [*count*] The dictionary comes with a free *CD-ROM*. [*noncount*] The dictionary is available on *CD-ROM*. ✧ *CD-ROM* is an abbreviation of "compact disc read-only memory." — see picture at COMPUTER

CE *or chiefly US* **C.E.** *abbr* Christian Era; Common Era — used to refer to the years that come after the birth of Jesus Christ ▪ the first century *C.E.* ▪ 883 *C.E.* ✧ *C.E.* has the same

meaning as *A.D. C.E.* is now often used instead of *A.D.* especially in scientific writing. — compare A.D., B.C., B.C.E.

cease /ˈsi:s/ *verb* **ceas•es**; **ceased**; **ceas•ing** *formal*
1 [*no obj*] : to stop happening : to end ▪ The fighting along the border has temporarily *ceased*. ▪ The conversation abruptly *ceased*. [=*halted*] ▪ The noise *ceased* [=*stopped*] altogether. ▪ when the weary *cease* from their labors [=when people who are very tired stop working] ▪ The company was ordered by the court to ***cease and desist*** from selling the photographs. [=was ordered to immediately stop selling the photographs] — see also CEASE AND DESIST ORDER
2 [+ *obj*] : to stop doing (something) ▪ The factory *ceased* operations last year. ▪ The child would not *cease* his constant whining/complaining. ▪ The soldiers were ordered to ***cease fire***. [=to stop shooting their weapons] — often followed by *to* + *verb* ▪ The program would *cease to exist* without private funding. ▪ He had long *ceased to have* any regrets. ▪ Her courage ***never ceases to amaze*** me. [=I am always amazed by her courage] — see also CEASE-FIRE
wonders never cease see ¹WONDER

cease and desist order *noun, pl* ~ **-ders** [*count*] *law* : an official order to stop doing something immediately ▪ A *cease and desist order* was issued by the state.

cease–fire /ˈsi:sˈfajɚ/ *noun, pl* **-fires** [*count*] : an agreement to stop fighting a war for a period of time so that a permanent agreement can be made to end the war : TRUCE ▪ The countries each sent representatives to negotiate a *cease-fire*. ▪ a *cease-fire* agreement

cease•less /ˈsi:sləs/ *adj, somewhat formal* : seeming to never stop : continuous or constant ▪ her *ceaseless* efforts to build and improve the business ▪ his *ceaseless* complaints
– **cease•less•ly** *adv* ▪ He complained *ceaselessly*. [=*constantly, endlessly*]

ce•dar /ˈsi:dɚ/ *noun, pl* **-dars**
1 [*count*] : a very tall evergreen tree
2 [*noncount*] : the hard, reddish, and pleasant-smelling wood of a cedar ▪ a chair made of *cedar* — often used before another noun ▪ *cedar* shingles ▪ a *cedar* chest/closet

cede /ˈsi:d/ *verb* **cedes**; **ced•ed**; **ced•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to give control of (something) to another person, group, government, etc. ▪ Russia *ceded* Alaska to the U.S. in 1867. ▪ The state had to *cede* [=*relinquish*] part of their territory. ▪ The country had no choice but to *cede* [=*surrender*] control of the canal. ▪ They *ceded* their authority.

ce•dil•la /sɪˈdɪlə/ *noun, pl* **-las** [*count*] : a mark ¸ placed under the letter *c* (as in *façade*) to show that it is pronounced like *s* and not *k* ✧ In English, the cedilla is mostly used in words that come from French.

ceil•ing /ˈsi:lɪŋ/ *noun, pl* **-ings** [*count*]
1 : the inside surface at the top of a room ▪ The house has low *ceilings*. ▪ a plaster *ceiling* ▪ a *ceiling* fan [=a fan that hangs from the ceiling of a room] — sometimes used figuratively ▪ a *ceiling* of stars/clouds — opposite FLOOR
2 : an upper limit — usually singular ▪ a price *ceiling* ▪ The government has put/set/imposed a *ceiling* on automobile emissions. ▪ Fuel prices are going ***through the ceiling***. [=fuel prices are quickly getting much higher] — opposite FLOOR; see also GLASS CEILING
3 *technical* : the greatest height at which an aircraft can fly ▪ The airplane has a *ceiling* of 32,000 feet.
hit the ceiling see ¹HIT
– **ceilinged** *adj* — used in combination ▪ a high-*ceilinged* room [=a room with a high ceiling]

ce•leb /səˈlɛb/ *noun, pl* **-lebs** [*count*] *informal* : CELEBRITY 2 ▪ Hollywood *celebs*

cel•e•brant /ˈsɛləbrənt/ *noun, pl* **-brants** [*count*] *formal*
1 a : a person who performs or leads a religious ceremony ▪ The bishop will be the main *celebrant*. ▪ the *celebrant* of the service/Mass **b** : a person who participates in a religious ceremony ▪ The *celebrants* lit their candles.
2 *US* : a person who celebrates something ▪ The city streets were crowded with *celebrants*. [=(more commonly) *revelers, celebrators*]

cel•e•brate /ˈsɛləˌbreɪt/ *verb* **-brates**; **-brat•ed**; **-brat•ing**
1 : to do something special or enjoyable for an important event, occasion, holiday, etc. [+ *obj*] We are *celebrating* my birthday by going out to dinner. ▪ The family gathered to *celebrate* Christmas. ▪ We are *celebrating* our anniversary next week. ▪ They are *celebrating* the birth of their third child. [*no obj*] We won! Let's *celebrate*!
2 [+ *obj*] *formal* : to praise (someone or something) : to say that (someone or something) is great or important ▪ The book *celebrates* the movies of the past. ▪ Her lecture *celebrated* the genius of the artist. ▪ We should *celebrate* diversity. ▪ He is *celebrated* for his contributions to modern science.
3 [+ *obj*] *formal* : to perform (a religious ceremony) ▪ A priest *celebrates* Mass at the church daily.
– **cel•e•bra•tor** /ˈsɛləˌbreɪtɚ/ *noun, pl* **-tors** [*count*] ▪ The dance floor was packed with *celebrators*. [=*revelers*] ▪ a *celebrator* of fine wine – **ce•leb•ra•to•ry** /ˈsɛləbrəˌtori, *Brit* ˌsɛləˈbreɪtri/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* ▪ The tone of the article was *celebratory*. ▪ a *celebratory* drink/dinner

celebrated *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : known and praised by many people : FAMOUS ▪ He is one of today's most *celebrated* young writers. ▪ a *celebrated* book

cel•e•bra•tion /ˌsɛləˈbreɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**
1 [*count*] : a party or other special event that you have for an important occasion, holiday, etc. ▪ a victory/birthday/holiday *celebration* ▪ the town's bicentennial *celebrations*
2 [*noncount*] : the activity of doing special, enjoyable things for an important occasion, achievement, etc. : the activity of celebrating ▪ It was a night of *celebration*. ▪ We're having a dinner ***in celebration of*** their anniversary. [=as a way of celebrating their anniversary] ▪ Your promotion is (a) ***cause for celebration***.
3 [*count*] : the performance of a religious ceremony — usually singular ▪ a *celebration* of Mass

célèbre see CAUSE CÉLÈBRE

ce•leb•ri•ty /səˈlɛbrəti/ *noun, pl* **-ties**
1 [*noncount*] *formal* : the state of being famous or celebrated : FAME ▪ The actress lived a life of *celebrity*.
2 [*count*] : a person who is famous ▪ There were many *celebrities* at the party. ▪ She's become something of a ***local celebrity***. [=someone who everyone in the area knows or recognizes] — often used before another noun ▪ a *celebrity* chef [=a chef who is famous] ▪ *celebrity* interviews [=interviews with famous people]

cel•ery /ˈsɛləri/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a vegetable that is grown for its long light green stems ✧ Celery is eaten raw or cooked. ▪ a stalk of *celery* — see color picture on page C4

ce•les•tial /səˈlɛstʃəl, *Brit* səˈlɛstiəl/ *adj*
1 : of or relating the sky ▪ stars, planets, asteroids, and other *celestial* bodies ▪ Sailors still use *celestial* navigation. [=they still navigate by using the positions of the sun and stars in the sky]
2 : of or relating to heaven : HEAVENLY ▪ Angels are *celestial* beings. ▪ The late afternoon sunlight gave the room a *celestial* glow. ▪ *celestial* music

cel•i•bate /ˈsɛləbət/ *adj* — used to describe a person who is not married and does not have sex ▪ *celibate* monks and nuns ▪ They have chosen to lead *celibate* lives. ▪ He was *celibate* for many years following the death of his wife.
– **cel•i•ba•cy** /ˈsɛləbəsi/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ a vow of *celibacy* – **celibate** *noun, pl* **-bates** [*count*] ▪ The monks and nuns are *celibates*.

cell /ˈsɛl/ *noun, pl* **cells** [*count*]
1 a : a room in a prison, jail, etc., where prisoners live or are kept ▪ a prison/jail *cell* ▪ The suspect was in the police station's holding *cell* overnight. **b** : a small room that one person (such as a monk or a nun) lives in
2 : any one of the very small parts that together form all living things ▪ blood/brain *cells* ▪ cancer *cells* — often used before another noun ▪ The nucleus splits during *cell* division. ▪ Her white blood *cell* count is low. ▪ the *cell* walls of plants
3 : any one of many similar sections that together form a larger structure ▪ a honeycomb *cell*
4 *technical* **a** : a container for holding substances that are used for producing electricity by chemical action ▪ dry *cell* battery ▪ a fuel *cell* **b** : a device for changing light (such as sunlight) into electricity ▪ a solar *cell*
5 : a small group of people who work together secretly as part of a larger organization or group ▪ terrorist *cells*
6 *US, informal* : CELL PHONE
7 *computers* : a space where information can be entered in an organized arrangement of rows and columns : a unit in a table or spreadsheet — see picture at TABLE
– **celled** /ˈsɛld/ *adj* — used in combination ▪ single-*celled* organisms

cel•lar /ˈsɛlɚ/ *noun, pl* **-lars** [*count*]
1 : the part of a building that is entirely or partly below the ground : BASEMENT ▪ The *cellar* has a dirt floor. — see also ROOT CELLAR
2 : the wines that are stored in a restaurant, in someone's

C

home, etc. : WINE CELLAR ▪ a restaurant with an impressive *cellar*

cellblock *noun, pl* **-blocks** [*count*] : a group of prison cells that make up a section of a prison

cel•list /'ʧɛlɪst/ *noun, pl* **-lists** [*count*] : a person who plays the cello

cell•mate /'sɛlˌmeɪt/ *noun, pl* **-mates** [*count*] : someone who shares a prison cell with another prisoner

cel•lo /'ʧɛloʊ/ *noun, pl* **-los** [*count*] : a large musical instrument like a violin that is held between the player's knees while the player sits — see picture at STRINGED INSTRUMENT

cel•lo•phane /'sɛləˌfeɪn/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a thin transparent material that is used for wrapping things ▪ He wrapped the gift basket in *cellophane*.

cell phone *noun, pl* ~ **phones** [*count*] *chiefly US* : a small telephone that people can take with them and use outside their homes ▪ Call me on my *cell phone*. — called also *mobile phone*, (*chiefly US*) *cellular phone*, (*US, informal*) *cell*, (*Brit*) *mobile*; see picture at TELEPHONE

cel•lu•lar /'sɛljələ/ *adj*

1 : of, relating to, or made of the cells of living things ▪ Researchers are observing the course of the disease at the *cellular* level. ▪ a *cellular* membrane

2 : relating to a system that uses radio waves instead of wires to send telephone signals ▪ a *cellular* network ▪ *cellular* telephone service

cellular phone *noun, pl* ~ **phones** [*count*] *chiefly US* : CELL PHONE

cel•lu•lite /'sɛljəˌlaɪt/ *noun* [*noncount*] : fat that is close to the surface of the skin and that makes the skin slightly bumpy

cel•lu•loid /'sɛljəˌlɔɪd/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 : a tough kind of plastic that was used in the past to make photographic film and other products

2 : the film used to make movies ▪ The event was captured on *celluloid*. [=was filmed] — often used before another noun to refer to movies in general ▪ The new movie is about the *celluloid* stars of the past. ▪ a *celluloid* portrait of an aging athlete [=a movie about an aging athlete]

cel•lu•lose /'sɛljəˌloʊs/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a substance that is the main part of the cell walls of plants and that is used in making various products (such as paper)

Cel•si•us /'sɛlsijəs/ *adj* : relating to or having a scale for measuring temperature on which the boiling point of water is at 100 degrees and the freezing point of water is at 0 degrees ▪ the *Celsius* scale ▪ The temperature reached 23 degrees *Celsius*. — abbr. *C*; compare FAHRENHEIT

Celt /'kɛlt, 'sɛlt/ *noun, pl* **Celts** [*count*]

1 : a member of a group of people (such as the Irish or Welsh) who lived in ancient Britain and parts of western Europe ▪ The *Celts* defended their lands against the Romans.

2 : a person whose ancestors were Celts

Celt•ic /'kɛltɪk, 'sɛltɪk/ *adj* : of or relating to the Celts or their languages ▪ *Celtic* music/history ▪ *Celtic* languages

[1]ce•ment /sɪ'mɛnt/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 a : a soft gray powder that is mixed with water and other substances to make concrete ▪ a bag of *cement* ▪ *cement* mix

b : the hard substance that is made when cement is mixed with water and allowed to dry : CONCRETE ▪ There is a layer of *cement* under the bricks. ▪ *cement* blocks ▪ a *cement* floor

2 : a substance that is used to make things stick together : GLUE ▪ rubber *cement* — sometimes used figuratively ▪ Tradition is the *cement* that holds this community together.

[2]cement *verb* **-ments**; **-ment•ed**; **-ment•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to join (things) together with cement — usually used as *(be) cemented* ▪ The parts *are* then *cemented* together. ▪ A thick post *was cemented* to the floor.

2 : to make (something) stronger ▪ A win would *cement* her reputation as a strong competitor. ▪ The many hours they spent working together helped to *cement* their relationship. [=to make their relationship strong]

cement mixer *noun, pl* ~ **-ers** [*count*] : a truck that has a large container which turns when it is filled with wet cement so that the cement will not become hard — called also (*Brit*) *concrete mixer*; see picture at CONSTRUCTION

cem•e•tery /'sɛməˌteri, *Brit* 'sɛmətri/ *noun, pl* **-ter•ies** [*count*] : a place where dead people are buried : GRAVEYARD

ceno•taph /'sɛnəˌtæf, *Brit* 'sɛnəˌtɑːf/ *noun, pl* **-taphs** [*count*] : a special structure or statue that is built to remind people of a dead person who is buried somewhere else; *especially* : a structure built to honor the people who were killed in a war

[1]cen•sor /'sɛnsɚ/ *noun, pl* **-sors** [*count*] : a person who examines books, movies, letters, etc., and removes things that are considered to be offensive, immoral, harmful to society, etc. ▪ Government *censors* deleted all references to the protest.

[2]censor *verb* **-sors**; **-sored**; **-sor•ing** [+ *obj*] : to examine books, movies, letters, etc., in order to remove things that are considered to be offensive, immoral, harmful to society, etc. ▪ The station *censored* her speech before broadcasting it. ▪ His report was heavily *censored*. ▪ The government *censored* [=*removed*] all references to the protest.

Do not confuse *censor* with *censure*.

cen•so•ri•ous /sɛn'sorijəs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* : having or showing a tendency to criticize someone or something severely : very critical ▪ The stunt earned her the scorn of her *censorious* older sister. ▪ I was surprised by the *censorious* tone of the book review.

cen•sor•ship /'sɛnsɚˌʃɪp/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the system or practice of censoring books, movies, letters, etc. ▪ *censorship* of the press/media ▪ They oppose government *censorship*.

[1]cen•sure /'sɛnʃɚ/ *noun* [*noncount*] *formal* : official strong criticism ▪ The country faces international *censure* for its alleged involvement in the assassination.

[2]censure *verb* **-sures**; **-sured**; **-sur•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to officially criticize (someone or something) strongly and publicly ▪ He was *censured* by the committee for his failure to report the problem.

Do not confuse *censure* with *censor*.

cen•sus /'sɛnsəs/ *noun, pl* **-sus•es** [*count*] : the official process of counting the number of people in a country, city, or town and collecting information about them ▪ According to the latest *census*, the racial makeup of the town has changed dramatically in the last 50 years. — often used before another noun ▪ *census* figures/data

cent /'sɛnt/ *noun, pl* **cents** [*count*] : a unit of money that is equal to $\frac{1}{100}$ of the basic unit of money in many countries : one percent of a dollar, euro, rupee, etc. ▪ A dime is worth 10 *cents*. ▪ The car isn't worth a *cent*. [=the car is not worth anything]

not one red cent *informal* : no money at all ▪ I would *not* pay *one red cent* for that car. [=I would not pay any money at all for that car]

two cents *US, informal* : someone's opinion about something ▪ He's always ready to offer his *two cents* on any topic, whether he knows anything about it or not. ▪ Can I ***put/throw in my two cents***? [=can I give my opinion?] ▪ If I can, I'd like to offer my ***two cents' worth***. [=my opinion]

cent. *abbr* century

cen•taur /'sɛnˌtoɚ/ *noun, pl* **-taurs** [*count*] : a creature in Greek mythology that is part human and part horse

cen•te•nar•i•an /ˌsɛntə'nerijən/ *noun, pl* **-ans** [*count*] : a person who is 100 years old or older

cen•ten•a•ry /sɛn'tɛnəri, *Brit* sɛn'tiːnri/ *noun, pl* **-ries** [*count*] *Brit* : CENTENNIAL ▪ This year marks the *centenary* of the building's construction.

– **centenary** *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ a *centenary* year/celebration

cen•ten•ni•al /sɛn'tɛniəl/ *noun, pl* **-als** [*count*] *US* : the 100th anniversary of something (such as an important event) ▪ We're celebrating the museum's *centennial* [=(*Brit*) *centenary*] this summer. [=celebrating the fact that it is 100 years old] ▪ Next year will be the *centennial* of the town's founding. [=the day/year 100 years after the town was officially begun] — compare BICENTENNIAL

– **centennial** *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ a *centennial* year/celebration

[1]cen•ter (*US*) *or Brit* **cen•tre** /'sɛntɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ters**

1 [*count*] : the middle point or part of something ▪ the *center* of the room/circle ▪ The candies have a soft *center*. [=*middle*] ▪ The staircase is in the *center* of the building. — often used before another noun ▪ the *center* aisle/lane

2 [*singular*] **a** : a person or thing that is causing a lot of interest, argument, etc. ▪ The proposed memorial has become a *center* of controversy. [=there is a lot of controversy about the proposed memorial] ▪ He likes to be the ***center of attention***. [=he likes to be noticed and watched by many people]

b : the position of a person or thing that is causing a lot of interest, argument, etc. ▪ They are ***at the center of*** a furious

debate over whether or not to expand the city's public transportation system. ✧ If you are ***at the center of things***, you are closely involved in things that are happening. ▪ He always likes to be *at the center of things*.

3 [*count*] : a building or set of buildings used by the people of a city, town, area, etc., for a particular purpose ▪ a communications/conference *center* ▪ a day-care *center* ▪ The vaccine is being tested at several medical *centers* around the country. — see also COMMUNITY CENTER

4 [*count*] : a place where a particular activity happens ▪ the financial/business/cultural *center* of the city ▪ The university is becoming a ***center of excellence*** for genetic engineering. [=becoming a place where genetic engineering is done very well] — see also NERVE CENTER, SHOPPING CENTER

5 [*count*] : an area where many people live ▪ a population/urban *center*

6 [*count*] : the main part of a town or city where there are many stores, restaurants, offices, etc. ▪ the town/city *center* ▪ efforts to rebuild the city's *center* [=*downtown*]

7 [*singular*] : the political position of people who support ideas that are not extreme : a moderate political position between the positions of people who are conservative and liberal ▪ The party's new policies show a shift toward the *center*. ▪ His political views are slightly ***right/left of center***. [=are slightly conservative/liberal]

8 [*count*] *sports* : someone who plays a middle position on a team in sports like basketball, hockey, football, and soccer

front and center see ²FRONT

left, right, and centre see ²LEFT

²center (*US*) *or Brit* **centre** *verb* **-ters**; **-tered**; **-ter·ing**

1 [+ *obj*] : to place (something) in the middle of something ▪ *Center* the picture on the wall. — often used as *(be) centered* ▪ The sign *isn't centered*. Move it a little to the left. ▪ The pain *is centered* around/in his lower back.

2 a [*no obj*] : to be mainly concerned about or involved with someone or something — usually + *around, round, on*, or *upon* ▪ Her life *centers on/around* her children. [=her children are the most important part of her life] ▪ The story *centers on/upon* a teenage girl. ▪ The investigation has *centered* [=*focused*] mainly *on/upon* the alleged misuse of public funds. **b** [+ *obj*] : to cause (something) to be mainly concerned about or involved with something — usually + *around, round, on*, or *upon*, ▪ She *centers* her life *on/around* her children. = Her life is *centered on/around* her children. ▪ You should *center* your attention *on* the most important problems. ▪ The group is *centering* its efforts *on* getting food to the poor.

3 [+ *obj*] : to have the main or most important part of (something, such as an organization or activity) *in* or *at* a specified place — usually used as *(be) centered* ▪ an industry that *is centered in* the country's north ▪ The organization has members worldwide but *is centered in* Cairo. ▪ a series of arts events *centered at* the city park — see also CENTERED

cen·tered (*US*) *or Brit* **cen·tred** /'sɛntɚd/ *adj*

1 : mainly concerned about or involved with something specified — used in combination with a noun ▪ a family-*centered* hotel ▪ a nature-*centered* religion — see also SELF-CENTERED

2 : having a specified kind of center — used in combination with an adjective ▪ a dark-*centered* flower

3 [*more* ~; *most* ~] : emotionally healthy and calm ▪ She struggled with depression for years, but she's more *centered* now and able to live a full life.

center field (*US*) *or Brit* **centre field** *noun* [*noncount*] : the part of the baseball outfield between right field and left field ▪ a fly ball to *center field*; *also* : the position of the player defending center field ▪ She used to be a shortstop but now she plays *center field*.

– **center fielder** (*US*) *or Brit* **centre fielder** *noun, pl* ~ **-ers** [*count*] ▪ a good *center fielder*

cen·ter·fold (*US*) *or Brit* **cen·tre·fold** *noun, pl* **-folds** /'sɛntɚˌfoʊld/ [*count*]

1 : the pages that face each other in the middle of a magazine or newspaper

2 a : a picture of a person (such as a woman who is not wearing clothes) that is in the centerfold of a magazine **b** : a person whose picture is the centerfold of a magazine

center forward (*US*) *or Brit* **centre forward** *noun, pl* ~ **-wards** [*count*] : someone who plays in the middle of the front line of players in field hockey, soccer, and other sports

center ice (*US*) *or Brit* **centre ice** *noun* [*noncount*] : the middle section of an ice hockey rink ▪ She skated back to *center ice*.

center of gravity (*US*) *or Brit* **centre of gravity** *noun* [*singular*] : the point at which the entire weight of something can be balanced ▪ Its low *center of gravity* makes the car very stable.

cen·ter·piece (*US*) *or Brit* **cen·tre·piece** /'sɛntɚˌpi:s/ *noun, pl* **-piec·es**

1 [*count*] : a decoration (such as a group of flowers) that is placed in the center of a table

2 [*noncount*] : the most important part of something — usually + *of* ▪ He made tax reform the *centerpiece of* his speech. ▪ Her voting record is the *centerpiece of* her campaign.

center stage (*US*) *or Brit* **centre stage** *noun* [*singular*]

1 : the middle section of a theater's stage ▪ The actor stood alone at *center stage*.

2 : a main or very important position ▪ As we wrap up work on the old project, a new one moves to *center stage*. ▪ The issue is expected to ***take center stage*** in the elections.

cen·ti- /'sɛntə/ *combining form*

1 : hundred ▪ *centi*pede

2 : one hundredth part of something ▪ *centi*meter

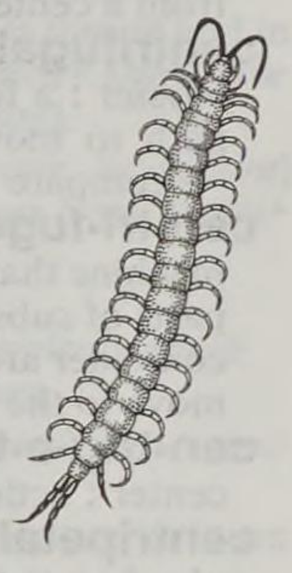
cen·ti·grade /'sɛntəˌgreɪd/ *adj* : CELSIUS

cen·ti·gram /'sɛntəˌgræm/ *noun, pl* **-grams** [*count*] : a weight equal to 1/100 gram

cen·ti·li·ter (*US*) *or Brit* **cen·ti·li·tre** /'sɛntəˌli:tɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ters** [*count*] : a unit for measuring the volume of a liquid or gas that is equal to 1/100 liter or 10 cubic centimeters

cen·ti·me·ter (*US*) *or Brit* **cen·ti·me·tre** /'sɛntəˌmi:tɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ters** [*count*] : a length equal to 1/100 meter

cen·ti·pede /'sɛntəˌpi:d/ *noun, pl* **-pedes** [*count*] : a small creature that is like an insect and that has a long, thin body and many legs



centipede

¹cen·tral /'sɛntrəl/ *adj*

1 *always used before a noun* : in the middle of something : located in the center of a thing or place ▪ The country is in *central* Africa. [=the area that is in the middle of Africa] ▪ The house has four rooms and a *central* chimney. ▪ City planners are looking for a *central* location for the new hospital.

2 : main or most important ▪ The novel's *central* [=*main*] character is an orphan. ▪ The professor has become a *central* [=*key*] figure in the controversy. ▪ The evidence was *central* to the defense's case. ▪ a *central* belief/claim

3 *always used before a noun* : controlling all other parts : having power over the other parts ▪ The country's schools are financed by both local and *central* governments. ▪ The *central* authority of the company's board is being challenged.

4 : designed to reach all parts of a building ▪ The apartment has both *central* air-conditioning and *central* heating.

– **cen·tral·i·ty** /sɛn'trælətɪ/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ We should emphasize the *centrality* of this evidence to our case.

– **cen·tral·ly** /'sɛntrəlɪ/ *adv* ▪ The new hospital will be *centrally* located.

²central *noun* [*singular*] *US, informal* : a place where an activity takes place or a group meets : a place that is a center for an activity or group ▪ The resort is party *central* for college students on spring break. [=college students on spring break have many parties at the resort] ▪ Our family room becomes kid *central* on weekends.

central bank *noun, pl* ~ **banks** [*count*] : a bank that does business with other banks and with the government and that controls a country's money supply and interest rates

– **central banker** *noun, pl* ~ **-ers** [*count*]

central casting *noun* [*noncount*] *informal* : the department at a movie company that chooses which actor will play each part ✧ Someone who is said to be ***from/out of central casting*** is a person whose appearance, behavior, or nature seem to be typical for their job or position. ▪ The physics professor looks like he's right *out of central casting*: his white hair is disheveled, his suit rumpled, and he looks a little lost.

central city *noun, pl* ~ **cities** [*count*] : the center part of a large city ▪ The *central city* is losing population, while the suburbs are expanding.

cen·tral·ism /'sɛntrəˌlɪzəm/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a way of organizing a political or educational system in which a single authority has power and control over the entire system

– **centralist** *adj*

cen·tral·ize *also Brit* **cen·tral·ise** /'sɛntrəˌlaɪz/ *verb* **-iz·es**; **-ized**; **-iz·ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to bring (things that are in different places) together at a

single point or place ▪ The city's hospitals hope to *centralize* [=*consolidate*] medical records in a single database. ▪ All shipping operations have been *centralized* at the Miami office.

2 : to bring (something) under the control of one authority ▪ *centralize* control ▪ The controversial reforms could be used to further *centralize* power in the hands of one party. ▪ a *centralized* authority/government — opposite DECENTRALIZE

– **cen·tral·i·za·tion** *also Brit* **cen·tral·i·sa·tion** /ˌsɛntrələˈzeɪʃən, *Brit* ˌsɛntrəˌlaɪˈzeɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*]

central locking *noun* [*noncount*] *Brit* : an electronic system that locks all the doors of a car at the same time

central nervous system *noun, pl* ~ **-tems** [*count*] : the part of the nervous system that includes the brain and spinal cord

central processing unit *noun, pl* ~ **units** [*count*] : CPU

central reservation *noun, pl* ~ **-tions** [*count*] *Brit* : MEDIAN STRIP

centre *Brit spelling of* CENTER

-cen·tric /ˈsɛntrɪk/ *adj combining form*

1 : having (something) at the center ▪ The solar system is heliocentric, meaning that the sun is at its center.

2 : having (something) as a central interest, influence, subject, etc. ▪ a Eurocentric way of thinking [=a way of thinking that treats Europe and Europeans as most important] — sometimes hyphenated ▪ (*informal*) a kid-*centric* movie [=a movie for children]

cen·trif·u·gal /sɛnˈtrɪfjəgəl, *Brit* ˌsɛntrɪˈfjuːgəl/ *adj, technical* : moving away from a center : acting in a direction away from a center

centrifugal force *noun, pl* ~ **forces** [*count, noncount*] *physics* : a force that causes an object moving in a circular path to move out and away from the center of its path — compare CENTRIPETAL FORCE

cen·tri·fuge /ˈsɛntrəˌfjuːʤ/ *noun, pl* **-fug·es** [*count*] : a machine that uses centrifugal force to separate substances or parts of substances ✧ A centrifuge spins substances inside a container around very fast, causing the heavier substances to move to the bottom or sides of the container.

cen·trip·e·tal /sɛnˈtrɪpətl/ *adj, technical* : moving toward a center : acting in a direction toward a center

centripetal force *noun, pl* ~ **forces** [*count, noncount*] *physics* : a force that pulls an object moving in a circular path toward the center of its path — compare CENTRIFUGAL FORCE

cen·trist /ˈsɛntrɪst/ *noun, pl* **-trists** [*count*] : a person whose political opinions are not extreme : a person whose beliefs fall between those of liberals and conservatives ▪ The candidate hopes to appeal to *centrists* nationwide.

– **centrist** *adj* ▪ *centrist* political views

cen·tu·ry /ˈsɛnʧəri/ *noun, pl* **-ries** [*count*]

1 : a period of 100 years ▪ It took more than a *century* to complete the cathedral. ▪ This photograph was taken half a *century* [=50 years] ago. ▪ The herb has been used to treat headaches for *centuries*. [=hundreds of years] ▪ a *centuries*-old tradition

2 : a period of 100 years counted from the beginning of the Christian era ▪ Millions of people celebrated the beginning of the 21st *century* on January 1, 2000. ▪ the third *century* A.D. ▪ The pottery dates back to the sixth *century* B.C.E. ▪ When the prince got married, it was called the wedding of the *century*.

CEO /ˌsiːˌiːˈoʊ/ *noun, pl* **CEOs** [*count*] : the person who has the most authority in an organization or business ✧ *CEO* is an abbreviation of "chief executive officer."

ce·ram·ic /səˈræmɪk/ *adj* : made of clay that has been heated to a very high temperature so that it becomes hard ▪ a *ceramic* bead/bowl ▪ *ceramic* tiles

ce·ram·ics /səˈræmɪks/ *noun*

1 [*noncount*] : the art of making things out of clay ▪ She studied *ceramics* in Japan. ▪ a *ceramics* class

2 [*plural*] : things made out of hardened clay : ceramic objects ▪ the museum's collection of ancient Greek *ceramics*

ce·re·al /ˈsirijəl/ *noun, pl* **-als**

1 [*count*] : a plant (such as a grass) that produces grain that can be eaten ▪ Wheat and barley are common *cereals*.

2 : a breakfast food made from grain ✧ Cereal is usually eaten in a bowl with milk poured over it. [*noncount*] a bowl of *cereal* ▪ Some kinds of *cereal* have a lot of added sugar. [*count*] Some *cereals* have a lot of added sugar. ▪ breakfast *cereals*

cer·e·bel·lum /ˌserəˈbɛləm/ *noun, pl* **-lums** *or* **-la** /-lə/ [*count*] *medical* : the back part of the brain that controls balance and the use of muscles

ce·re·bral /səˈriːbrəl, ˈserəbrəl/ *adj*

1 *always used before a noun, medical* : of or relating to the brain ▪ the *cerebral* cortex/hemisphere ▪ a *cerebral* hemorrhage

2 [*more* ~; *most* ~] : related to the mind rather than to feelings : intellectual and not emotional ▪ He's a very *cerebral* comedian. ▪ The novel was a little too *cerebral* [=*highbrow*] for me.

cerebral palsy *noun* [*noncount*] *medical* : a disease that causes a person to have problems moving and speaking

ce·re·brum /səˈriːbrəm, ˈserəbrəm/ *noun, pl* **-brums** *or chiefly Brit* **-bra** /-brə/ [*count*] *medical* : the front part of the brain that is believed to be where thoughts occur

[1]cer·e·mo·ni·al /ˌserəˈmoʊnijəl/ *adj*

1 a : used in or done as part of a ceremony ▪ The tribe has different *ceremonial* masks for each ceremony. ▪ a *ceremonial* dance **b** : including a ceremony : marked by a ceremony ▪ a *ceremonial* occasion

2 : without real power or influence ▪ His new position is largely *ceremonial* because all the decisions are actually made by a committee.

– **cer·e·mo·ni·al·ly** *adv* ▪ The swords are now used only *ceremonially*. [=only as part of a ceremony]

[2]ceremonial *noun, pl* **-als** [*count*] : a special ceremony ▪ a number of religious *ceremonials*

cer·e·mo·ni·ous /ˌserəˈmoʊnijəs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : formal and serious : suitable for a ceremony ▪ She read the announcement in a very *ceremonious* way. ▪ a *ceremonious* entrance — compare UNCEREMONIOUS

– **cer·e·mo·ni·ous·ly** *adv*

cer·e·mo·ny /ˈserəˌmoʊni/ *noun, pl* **-nies**

1 [*count*] : a formal act or event that is a part of a social or religious occasion ▪ graduation/wedding *ceremonies* ▪ There will be a *ceremony* honoring the town's veterans next week. — see also MASTER OF CEREMONIES

2 [*noncount*] : very polite or formal behavior ▪ With great *ceremony*, the children presented each of the visitors with a gift. ▪ He told them abruptly and ***without ceremony*** that they would have to leave.

stand on ceremony : to insist on doing the things that are usual or expected in polite or formal behavior — usually used in negative statements ▪ He doesn't *stand on ceremony*, he gets the job done.

cert /ˈsɚt/ *noun* [*singular*] *Brit, informal* : someone or something that is sure to be successful ▪ I've got a *cert* [=*sure thing*] for the next race. ▪ He's a ***dead cert*** [=*sure bet*] for player of the year.

[1]cer·tain /ˈsɚtn̩/ *adj*

1 *not used before a noun* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not having any doubt about something : convinced or sure ▪ Are you *certain* [=*sure*] you want to leave today? ▪ I feel less than *certain* about it. [=I am not sure about it] ▪ She's *certain* (that) she can do the job despite her lack of experience. ▪ I'm fairly *certain* that I'll be on time.

2 — used with *it* to say that something is known to be true or correct ▪ Although little is known about these ancient people, *it* is *certain* that they grew a number of crops. ▪ *It*'s not *certain* [=*definite*] that the company will lay off workers. [=the company may lay off workers, but it also may not] ▪ *It* seems *certain* that the jury will convict him.

3 — used to say that something will definitely happen or that someone will definitely do something ▪ Before the game was half over our team's defeat was nearly *certain*. ▪ Contact with the poison means *certain* death. ▪ Her victory seems *certain*. — often followed by *to* + *verb* ▪ As technology develops, the rates of success with the procedure are *certain to improve*. ▪ Health-care costs are *certain* [=*sure*] *to increase* in coming years. ▪ She is almost *certain to win*. ▪ He's ***all but certain to say*** no. [=he will almost surely say no]

4 *always used before a noun* — used to refer to something or someone that is not named specifically ▪ Each employee will receive a *certain* share of the profits. ▪ Building even a simple bookcase takes a *certain* amount of skill. [=takes some skill] ▪ *Certain* people are always late for dinner. ▪ On *certain* days there is no parking on the street. ▪ The new technology has *certain* limitations. ▪ Students must fulfill *certain* requirements to graduate. ▪ She's allergic to *certain* [=*particular*] foods. ▪ The contract can be extended ***under certain circumstances***. [=in some special cases] ▪ ***To a certain extent*** [=up to a point] he's right. ▪ The movie will appeal to people ***of a certain age***. [=people who are no longer young]

a certain **1** — used to refer to a quality that is noticed but that is difficult to explain or describe ▪ She has *a certain* elegance about her. ▪ The house has *a certain* charm. **2** *formal* — used with the name of a person you do not know ▪ In 1889, *a certain* Mr. Kelly made a large donation to the church.

for certain : without a doubt : definitely or certainly ▪ No one knows *for certain* what the outcome will be. ▪ We'll need more than an hour to get there *for certain*. [=*for sure*]

make certain : to do something or find out something so that you have no doubt about whether something is true, correct, will happen, etc. ▪ *Make certain* (that) you lock the door when you leave. = *Make certain* to lock the door when you leave. ▪ We must *make certain* [=*make sure*] this doesn't happen again. ▪ She *made certain* she thanked each of them for coming. — sometimes + *of* ▪ *Make certain of* your flight times [=be sure that you definitely know your flight times] before you leave for the airport.

²certain *pronoun, formal* : certain ones : particular members of a group : SOME — + *of* ▪ *Certain of* his assumptions are simply not true. ▪ We know that *certain of* his classmates walk to school every day.

cer·tain·ly /ˈsətn̩li/ *adv*

1 : without doubt : DEFINITELY ▪ It will *certainly* rain tomorrow. ▪ This year's festival was *certainly* much better than last year's. ▪ *Certainly* [=*surely*] you can do a better job than that! ▪ I'm *certainly* going to try. ▪ The new version is ***most certainly*** easier to use. ▪ The snake that bit her was ***almost certainly*** poisonous. — sometimes used for emphasis ▪ He didn't get the raise he was hoping for, but he's *certainly* not complaining. ▪ I *certainly* didn't mean to offend anyone.

2 : of course — used to answer questions ▪ "Can I speak to you for a moment?" "*Certainly*." ▪ "Did I offend you?" "Oh, ***certainly not***" [=no, you did not offend me at all] ▪ "May I join you?" "You ***most certainly*** may."

cer·tain·ty /ˈsətn̩ti/ *noun, pl* **-ties**

1 [*noncount*] : the state of being or feeling certain about something ▪ Scientists still do not know with any degree of *certainty* why the disease spread so quickly. ▪ We cannot predict the outcome with absolute/any *certainty*. ▪ There was no *certainty* that the package would arrive in time. ▪ Her *certainty* about these complex moral issues is surprising. ▪ It is difficult to say ***with certainty*** [=in a certain or definite way] which of the plays was written first.

2 [*count*] : something that is certain : a fact about which there is no doubt ▪ We live in a world without *certainties*. [=a world in which things are not certain] ▪ His victory in the election is ***almost a certainty***. [=it is nearly certain/definite that he will win the election]

cer·ti·fi·able /ˈsətəˌfajəbəl/ *adj*

1 *informal* : crazy or insane ▪ Anyone who would run in front of a car like that is *certifiable*. ▪ *certifiable* behavior

2 *always used before a noun, chiefly US* : real or genuine : AUTHENTIC ▪ We called in a *certifiable* expert on legal issues. ▪ A handful of cinema's *certifiable* masterpieces are in need of restoration. ▪ a *certifiable* liar

cer·tif·i·cate /səˈtɪfɪkət/ *noun, pl* **-cates** [*count*]

1 : a document that is official proof that something has happened — see also BIRTH CERTIFICATE, DEATH CERTIFICATE, MARRIAGE CERTIFICATE

2 : a document that is official proof that you have finished school or a course of training ▪ She has a *certificate* in midwifery. ▪ He earned his teaching *certificate* last year.

3 : a document which shows that you own something ▪ a stock *certificate* — see also GIFT CERTIFICATE

cer·tif·i·cat·ed /səˈtɪfɪˌkeɪtəd/ *adj, Brit* : CERTIFIED 1 ▪ a *certificated* teacher

certificate of deposit *noun, pl* **certificates of deposit** [*count*] *chiefly US* : an official document in which a bank promises to pay a specified amount of interest when you deposit money in the bank for a specified period of time — called also *CD*

cer·ti·fi·ca·tion /ˌsətəfəˈkeɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**

1 [*noncount*] : the act of making something official : the act of certifying something ▪ the *certification* of the vote ▪ She had to wait until her *certification* as a nurse before she could start her new job.

2 : official approval to do something professionally or legally [*count*] The *certifications* of nine teachers were revoked. [*noncount*] instructor *certification* ▪ The school offers scuba diving *certification*.

cer·ti·fied /ˈsətəˌfaɪd/ *adj*

1 : having met the official requirements that are needed to do particular type of work ▪ a *certified* instructor ▪ You must be *certified* in order to practice medicine. ▪ The carpentry work must be done by someone who is *certified* for the job. ▪ nationally *certified* [=(*Brit*) *certificated*] teachers ▪ a ***board-certified*** doctor [=a doctor whose qualifications have been approved by an official group]

2 *chiefly US* **a** : officially approved as having met a standard ▪ The food/restaurant is *certified* kosher. ▪ *certified* organic vegetables **b** *informal* : real or genuine ▪ a *certified* celebrity ▪ Her boyfriend's a *certified* weirdo.

certified check (*US*) *or Brit* **certified cheque** *noun, pl* ~ **checks** [*count*] : a check that is guaranteed by a bank

certified mail *noun* [*noncount*] *US* : mail for which a person must sign an official document stating that it has been received ▪ He sent the contract by *certified mail*. — called also (*Brit*) *recorded delivery*; compare REGISTERED MAIL

certified public accountant *noun, pl* ~ **-tants** [*count*] *US* : an accountant who has finished the schooling or tests required by law — abbr. *CPA* — called also (*Brit*) *chartered accountant*

cer·ti·fy /ˈsətəˌfaɪ/ *verb* **-fies**; **-fied**; **-fy·ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to say officially that something is true, correct, or genuine ▪ A judge must *certify* the contract. ▪ The document has been *certified* by the court.

2 : to say officially that something or someone has met certain standards or requirements ▪ The car dealer *certifies* each car before it is sold. ▪ Has your doctor been *certified*?

3 *chiefly Brit* : to say officially that someone is insane and in need of treatment — often used as *(be) certified* ▪ They *were* both *certified* and spent the next year in hospital.

cer·ti·tude /ˈsətəˌtuːd, *Brit* ˈsəːtəˌtjuːd/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the state of being or feeling certain : freedom from doubt ▪ moral *certitude*

cer·vi·cal /ˈsəvɪkəl/ *adj, medical*

1 : of or relating to a cervix of the uterus ▪ *cervical* cancer

2 : of or relating to the neck ▪ *cervical* vertebrae

cervical smear *noun, pl* ~ **smears** [*count*] *Brit* : PAP SMEAR

cer·vix /ˈsəvɪks/ *noun, pl* **-vi·ces** /-vəˌsiːz/ *or* **-vix·es** [*count*] *medical* : the narrow end at the opening of a woman's uterus

ce·sar·e·an *or* **cae·sar·e·an** /sɪˈzerijən/ *noun, pl* **-ans** [*count*] *medical* : CESAREAN SECTION
– **cesarean** *or* **caesarean** *adj* ▪ a *cesarean* birth

cesarean section *also* **caesarean section** *noun, pl* ~ **-tions** [*count*] *medical* : a surgical operation for giving birth in which a cut is made in the mother's body so that the baby can be removed through the opening — called also *C-section*

ces·sa·tion /sɛˈseɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** *formal* : a stopping of some action : a pause or stop — often + *of* [*count*] With news of the treaty came a *cessation* of hostilities. [=fighting stopped when the treaty was announced] [*noncount*] Relapses after *cessation of* treatment are common.

ces·sion /ˈsɛʃən/ *noun, pl* **-sions** *formal* : the act of giving up something (such as power, land, or rights) to another person, group, or country [*count*] territorial *cessions* from one state to another ▪ a temporary *cession* [=*yielding*] of local control [*noncount*] The law required *cession* of the land to the heirs.

cess·pit /ˈsɛsˌpɪt/ *noun, pl* **-pits** [*count*] *chiefly Brit* : CESSPOOL

cess·pool /ˈsɛsˌpuːl/ *noun, pl* **-pools** [*count*]

1 : an underground hole or container for holding liquid waste (such as sewage) from a building

2 : a place or situation that is very dirty, evil, or corrupt ▪ The region had become a *cesspool* of pollution. ▪ a *cesspool* of corruption — called also (*chiefly Brit*) *cesspit*

ce·ta·cean /sɪˈteɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-ceans** [*count*] *technical* : a mammal (such as a whale, dolphin, or porpoise) that lives in the ocean
– **cetacean** *adj*

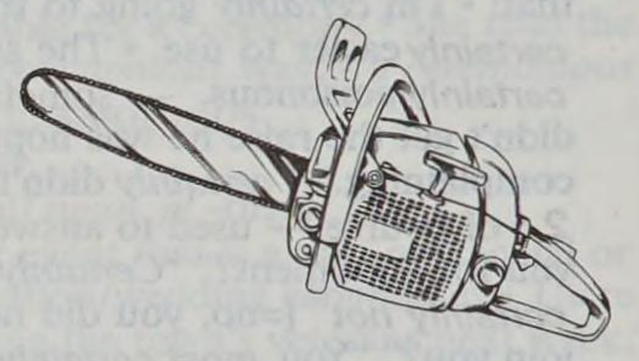
cf *abbr* compare — used to direct a reader to another idea, document, etc. ▪ This article takes a new approach to the problems of today's inner cities. (*Cf* Smith's earlier article on the topic.) ✧ *Cf* comes from the Latin *conferre*, which means "to compare."

CFC *abbr* chlorofluorocarbon

CFO *abbr* chief financial officer

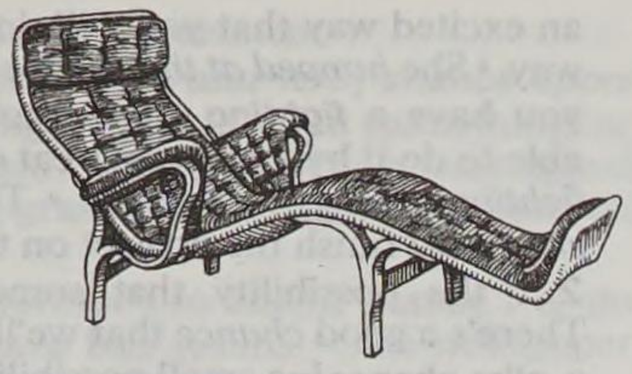
CFS *abbr* chronic fatigue syndrome

cg *abbr* centigram
ch *abbr* chapter
Cha•blis /ʃæˈbliː/ *noun, pl* **Chablis** [*count, noncount*] : a type of white wine from France
cha–cha /ˈʧɑːˌʧɑː/ *noun, pl* **-chas** [*count*] : a fast dance from Latin America — called also *cha-cha-cha*
chafe /ˈʧeɪf/ *verb* **chafes**; **chafed**; **chaf•ing**
1 [*no obj*] : to become irritated or annoyed : to feel impatient — usually + *against, at,* or *under* • After working outdoors for years, he *chafed at* being stuck in an office all day. • Local builders are *chafing under* the new regulations. • She *chafed against* the strict policies of the school.
2 a : to cause soreness or damage by rubbing against something (such as your skin) [+ *obj*] When the strap is too tight, it *chafes* the baby's skin. [*no obj*] If my boots aren't laced up tight they *chafe*. **b** [*no obj*] : to become sore or damaged from rubbing • The baby's skin will *chafe* if the strap is too tight.
chaff /ˈʧæf, *Brit* ˈʧɑːf/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the seed coverings and other plant parts that cannot be eaten and are removed from grain
separate the wheat from the chaff see ²SEPARATE
chaf•finch /ˈʧæˌfɪnʧ/ *noun, pl* **-finches** [*count*] : a small European bird
chaf•ing dish /ˈʧeɪfɪŋ-/ *noun, pl* ~ **dishes** [*count*] : a dish that is used for cooking or warming food at the table
cha•grin /ʃəˈgrɪn, *Brit* ˈʃægrɪn/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a feeling of being frustrated or annoyed because of failure or disappointment • The fact that he'd been unable to attend the funeral was a source of *chagrin* for Ted. • She had gained five pounds over the winter, much ***to her chagrin***. • He decided to get a tattoo, *to the chagrin* of his parents.
cha•grined *also* **cha•grinned** /ʃəˈgrɪnd, *Brit* ˈʃægrɪnd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* : frustrated or annoyed : feeling chagrin • They were *chagrined* to find (that) no more rooms were available at the hotel.
¹chain /ˈʧeɪn/ *noun, pl* **chains**
1 a : a series of usually metal links or rings that are connected to each other in a line and used for supporting heavy things, for holding things together, for decoration, etc. [*count*] The neighbor's dog is kept on a *chain*. [=is connected to a chain that keeps it from getting away] • She wore a beautiful gold *chain* [=*necklace*] around her neck. • the ship's anchor *chain* • a bicycle *chain* [*noncount*] We'll need 25 feet of *chain* for the pulley. — see pictures on page C11 and at BICYCLE; see also CHOKE CHAIN, KEY CHAIN **b** [*count*] : a chain that is attached to the arms or legs of a prisoner — usually plural • The prisoners were kept ***in chains*** while being transferred to the new jail. — often used figuratively • The contract would keep the employees *in chains*, unable to leave the company for at least five years. — see also BALL AND CHAIN
2 [*count*] : a series or group of things or people that are connected to each other in some way • a *chain* of islands • The world's longest ***mountain chain*** [=group of mountains that form a long line] is the Andes. • The new book chronicles ***the chain of events*** leading up to the crime. • Protesters formed ***a human chain*** [=they stood next to each other with their arms linked] around the ancient tree to prevent it from being cut down. — see also DAISY CHAIN, FOOD CHAIN
3 [*count*] : a group of businesses (such as stores, restaurants, or hotels) that have the same name and basic appearance and sell the same products or services • They own a *chain* of organic grocery stores. • fast-food/clothing *chains*; *also* : the company that owns such a group of businesses • The hotel *chain* recently opened a new hotel in Hong Kong. — see also CHAIN STORE
4 [*count*] *Brit* : a number of people who each want to buy a house but must first sell their current house before moving to the next one — usually singular • Both houses are currently vacant so there is no *chain* to worry about.
pull the chain *Brit* : to flush a toilet
pull/yank someone's chain *US, informal* : to deceive someone in a friendly or playful way • I thought he really won the lottery but he was only *pulling my chain*. [=he was only playing a joke on me]
²chain *verb* **chains**; **chained**; **chain•ing** [+ *obj*] : to fasten, hold, or connect (someone or something) with a chain • She *chained* her bicycle to the post and went inside. — often used as *(be) chained* • The neighbor's dog *is* kept *chained* (up) in the yard. • The prisoners *were chained* together. — often used figuratively • Many office workers spend the day *chained* to the computer. [=they work with a computer all day] • He hopes to spend less time *chained* to his desk.
chain gang *noun, pl* ~ **gangs** [*count*] : a group of prisoners who are chained together while they do work outside the prison
chain letter *noun, pl* ~ **-ters** [*count*] : a letter that is sent to a certain number of people and that asks each of those people to send a copy of the letter to the same number of people
chain–link fence *noun, pl* ~ **fences** [*count*] : a fence of heavy steel wire that is woven to form a pattern of large diamond-shaped spaces
chain mail *noun* [*noncount*] : a kind of protective clothing (called armor) that is made up of many tiny metal rings that are linked together and that was worn by knights and soldiers in the Middle Ages
chain of command *noun, pl* **chains of command** [*count*] : a series of positions of authority or rank within an organization that are ordered from lowest to highest • In the United States, the President as the commander in chief is at the head of the military *chain of command*.
chain reaction *noun, pl* ~ **-tions** [*count*]
1 : a series of events in which each event causes the next one : a series of events caused by one single event • Increased oil prices could trigger a *chain reaction* in the economy.
2 *technical* : a chemical or nuclear change that causes other changes of the same kind to happen
chain saw *noun, pl* ~ **saws** [*count*] : a tool that cuts wood with a circular chain that is driven by a motor and made up of many connected sharp metal teeth


chain saw

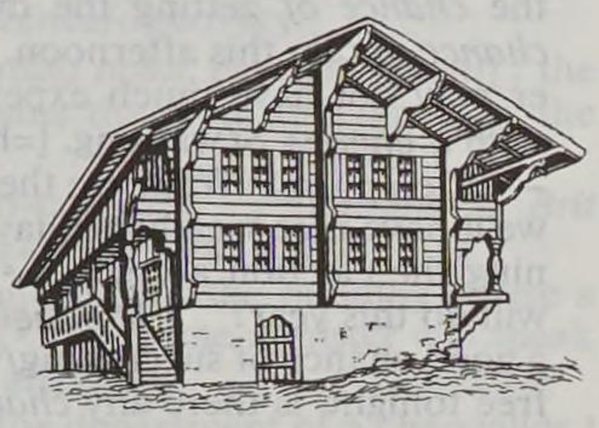
chain–smoke /ˈʧeɪnˌsmoʊk/ *verb* **-smokes**; **-smoked**; **-smoking** : to smoke cigarettes continuously one after another [*no obj*] He *chain-smokes* when he's under a lot of stress. [+ *obj*] She's been *chain-smoking* cigarettes for years.
– **chain–smok•er** *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]
chain store *noun, pl* ~ **stores** [*count*] : a store that has the same name and basic appearance as other stores that sell the same kind of goods and are owned by the same company
¹chair /ˈʧeɚ/ *noun, pl* **chairs**
1 [*count*] : a seat for one person that has a back and usually four legs • a *chair* by the window • We'll need a table and four *chairs* for the dining room. • Please ***pull up a chair*** [=bring a chair to where we are] and join us.
2 [*count*] **a :** the person who is the leader of a department at a college or university • He is now *chair* of the English department. **b :** the person who is the leader of a meeting, organization, committee, or event • She's *chair* of the school board this year. • Address any questions to the committee *chair*. — see also CHAIRMAN, CHAIRPERSON, CHAIRWOMAN
3 ***the chair*** *US, informal* : ELECTRIC CHAIR • a murderer who was sentenced/sent to *the chair*
²chair *verb* **chairs**; **chaired**; **chair•ing** [+ *obj*] : to be in charge of a meeting, organization, committee, or event : to be the chairperson of (something) • He's been chosen to *chair* the task force on school violence.
chair•lift /ˈʧeɚˌlɪft/ *noun, pl* **-lifts** [*count*] : a series of seats that hang from a moving cable and that carry people (such as skiers) up and down a mountain
chair•man /ˈʧeɚmən/ *noun, pl* **-men** /-mən/ [*count*]
1 : the person (especially a man) who is in charge of a meeting, committee, or event • He's the new *chairman* [=*chair, chairperson*] of the task force on school violence.
2 : the person who is in charge of a company or organization • the *chairman* of the airline company
chair•man•ship /ˈʧeɚmənˌʃɪp/ *noun, pl* **-ships** [*count*] : the position of a chairperson : the position of being the leader of an organization, committee, etc. • He volunteered for the committee *chairmanship*. • She took over the *chairmanship* of the company from her father.
chair•per•son /ˈʧeɚˌpɚsn̩/ *noun, pl* **-sons** [*count*] : the person who leads a meeting, organization, committee, or event : CHAIR • A new *chairperson* for the committee has not yet been appointed.
chair•wom•an /ˈʧeɚˌwʊmən/ *noun, pl* **-wom•en** /-ˌwɪmən/ [*count*] : a woman who leads a meeting, organization, committee, or event : CHAIR

chaise longue /ˈʃeɪzˈlɑːŋ/ *noun, pl* **chaise longues** *or* **chaises longues** /ˈʃeɪzˈlɑːŋ/ [*count*]
1 : a long low chair with a back along half its length and one arm
2 *US* **:** a long chair with a back that can be moved so that you can sit up or lie down — called also (*US*) *chaise lounge*



chaise longue

cha•let /ʃæˈleɪ/ *noun, pl* **-lets** [*count*]
1 : a type of house that has a steep roof that extends past the walls ▪ We stayed overnight at a ski *chalet*. ✧ Chalets were originally built in Switzerland and are common where there are mountains and a lot of snow.
2 *Brit* **:** a small house often in a group of similar houses where people go for vacations



chalet

chal•ice /ˈʧæləs/ *noun, pl* **chal•ic•es** [*count*] **:** a special cup for holding wine; *especially* **:** the cup used in the Christian ceremony of Communion
poisoned chalice *chiefly Brit* **:** something that seems attractive at first but becomes unpleasant ▪ Working as store manager was a *poisoned chalice* as it became more and more difficult to be the boss of her friends.

[1]chalk /ˈʧɑːk/ *noun, pl* **chalks**
1 [*noncount*] **:** a type of soft, light-colored rock ✧ Chalk is a kind of limestone.
2 a [*noncount*] **:** a substance that is made into white or colored sticks and used for writing or drawing ▪ The teacher handed her a piece of *chalk* and asked her to write the answer on the chalkboard. ▪ He put *chalk* marks on the stage to show the actors where they should stand. ▪ a *chalk* drawing [=a drawing done with chalk] **b** [*count*] **:** a piece of chalk ▪ They drew pictures on the sidewalk with colored *chalks*.
not by a long chalk *Brit* **:** not at all ▪ Our work isn't done yet, *not by a long chalk*. [=(*US*) *not by a long shot*; we still have a lot more work to do]
– **chalky** /ˈʧɑːki/ *adj* **chalk•i•er**; **chalk•i•est** [*also more ~; most ~*] ▪ *chalky* white [=the color of white chalk] ▪ *chalky* soil [=soil that has chalk in it]

[2]chalk *verb* **chalks**; **chalked**; **chalk•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to write or draw (something) with chalk ▪ She *chalked* a message on the side of the barn.
2 : to mark (something) with chalk ▪ He *chalked* the stage to show the actors where they should stand.
chalk up [*phrasal verb*] ***chalk (something) up*** *or* ***chalk up (something)*** **1 :** to earn or achieve (something) **:** to accumulate (something) ▪ As a runner, he's *chalked up* about 1,000 miles on the track. ▪ The company has *chalked up* huge losses this quarter. **2** *Brit* **:** to charge (the cost of drinks or food) to your account to be paid for later ▪ *Chalk up* these drinks to my account, please. **3 *chalk (something) up to (something)*** *chiefly US* **:** to explain (something) by stating its cause **:** to say that (something) was caused by (something) ▪ *Chalk* it *up* to bad timing. ▪ Her early mistakes can be *chalked up* to inexperience.

chalk•board /ˈʧɑːkˌbɔəd/ *noun, pl* **-boards** [*count*] *chiefly US* **:** BLACKBOARD

[1]chal•lenge /ˈʧælənʤ/ *verb* **-leng•es**; **-lenged**; **-leng•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to say or show that (something) may not be true, correct, or legal **:** DISPUTE ▪ A number of doctors are *challenging* the study's claims. ▪ The new lawsuit *challenges* the lower court's decision. ▪ The new data *challenges* many old assumptions. [=the new data gives people reasons to doubt many old assumptions]
2 a : to question the action or authority of (someone) ▪ She's been *challenged* on her handling of the problem. ▪ None of them were willing to *challenge* the referee on the call. **b** *law* **:** to question whether (someone) should serve on a jury ▪ *challenge* a juror
3 : to test the ability, skill, or strength of (someone or something) **:** to be difficult enough to be interesting to (someone) ▪ It's a game that will *challenge* a child's imagination. ▪ The work doesn't *challenge* him anymore, and he's often bored.
4 : to invite (someone) to compete in a game, fight, etc. — usually + *to* ▪ I *challenge* you *to* a game of chess. ▪ The duke *challenged* him *to* a duel.
5 : to order (someone) to stop and prove who he or she is ▪ The sentry *challenged* the stranger at the gate.
– **chal•leng•er** *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] ▪ He hopes to be the governor's *challenger* in the next election. [=the candidate running against the governor] ▪ The boxing match pitted the two-time champion against his *challenger*.

[2]challenge *noun, pl* **challenges**
1 : a difficult task or problem **:** something that is hard to do [*count*] The next major *challenge* for the company is to improve its distribution capabilities. ▪ Teaching adolescents can be quite a *challenge*. ▪ The band feels ready for new *challenges*. ▪ If he takes on the new project he will face the greatest *challenge* of his career. ▪ Passing the test was hardly a *challenge* [=was very easy] for her. ▪ The coach is confident that you will ***rise to the challenge***. [=the coach is confident that you will succeed] ▪ Management is seeking ways to better ***meet the challenge*** of future growth. [*noncount*] The ski slope offers a high degree of *challenge*.
2 [*count*] **:** an action, statement, etc., that is against something **:** a refusal to accept something as true, correct, or legal — often + *to* ▪ The lawsuit is a *challenge to* the lower court's decision. ▪ Both teachers have had to deal with many *challenges to* their authority.
3 [*count*] **a :** an invitation to compete in a game, fight, etc. ▪ Do you accept my *challenge* to a game of chess? **b :** an attempt to defeat someone in a competition ▪ The senator may face a *challenge* from within her own party.
4 [*count*] **:** an order to someone to stop and say who he or she is ▪ The intruder fled at the sentry's *challenge*.

challenged *adj, chiefly US* **:** having a physical or mental problem that makes it difficult to do things as easily as other people do — used as a polite way to say that a person has a disability ▪ She has worked as an advocate for the mentally and physically *challenged*. [=*disabled*] — sometimes used in a joking way ▪ People call me short, but I prefer the term "vertically *challenged*."

chal•leng•ing /ˈʧælənʤɪŋ/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] **:** difficult in a way that is usually interesting or enjoyable ▪ I find the job *challenging* and fun. ▪ Teaching is *challenging* but rewarding work. ▪ It's a *challenging* book that requires careful reading. ▪ The slope was *challenging* for even the most experienced climbers.
– **chal•leng•ing•ly** *adv*

cham•ber /ˈʧeɪmbə/ *noun, pl* **-bers** [*count*]
1 : a small space inside something (such as a machine or your body) ▪ He put three bullets into the *chamber* of the gun. ▪ the *chambers* of the heart
2 : a usually large room where members of a government group (such as a legislature) have meetings ▪ We waited for the senator outside the Senate *chamber*.
3 : a group of people who form part of a government ▪ The U.S. legislature is separated into two *chambers*: the Senate and the House of Representatives. ▪ the upper and lower *chambers* of the British Parliament [=the House of Lords and the House of Commons] — see also CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
4 : a room where a judge goes to do official business or to discuss cases with lawyers outside of the courtroom — usually plural ▪ the judge's *chambers*
5 *formal + old-fashioned* **:** a person's bedroom or other private room ▪ the queen's personal *chambers* ▪ a bridal *chamber* [=a bedroom used by two people who have just been married] ▪ the temple's inner *chambers*
6 : a room used for a special purpose ▪ the burial *chambers* inside an Egyptian pyramid ▪ a torture *chamber* — see also GAS CHAMBER
– **cham•bered** /ˈʧeɪmbəd/ *adj* ▪ a six-*chambered* gun [=a gun with six chambers]

cham•ber•maid /ˈʧeɪmbəˌmeɪd/ *noun, pl* **-maids** [*count*] **:** a woman who cleans bedrooms in hotels

chamber music *noun* [*noncount*] **:** classical music written for a small number of musicians

chamber of commerce *noun, pl* **chambers of commerce** [*count*] **:** a group of businesspeople who work together to try to help businesses in their town or city ▪ The event is sponsored by your local *chamber of commerce*.

chamber orchestra *noun, pl* **~ -tras** [*count*] **:** a small

group of musicians who play classical music together

chamber pot *noun, pl* ~ **pots** [*count*] : a container that is kept in a bedroom and that is used as a toilet

cha•me•leon /kə'mi:ljən/ *noun, pl* **-leons** [*count*]
1 : a type of lizard that can change the color of its skin to look like the colors that are around it
2 *usually disapproving* : a person who often changes his or her beliefs or behavior in order to please others or to succeed ▪ She's a political *chameleon*. [=she often changes her political beliefs]

cham•ois *noun, pl* **chamois**
1 /ʃæm'wɑ:/ [*count*] : a small animal that looks like a goat and that lives on mountains in Europe and western Asia
2 /'ʃæmi/ **a** [*noncount*] : soft leather that is made from the skin of goats, sheep, or chamois — called also (*Brit*) *chamois leather* **b** [*count*] : a piece of chamois used especially for cleaning windows and cars ▪ a bucket of water and a *chamois*
3 /'ʃæmi/ [*noncount*] *US* : a type of cotton cloth that looks or feels like soft leather — often used before another noun ▪ a *chamois* shirt

cham•o•mile *or* **cam•o•mile** /'kæmə,majəl/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a plant that has a strong smell and small white and yellow flowers that are often used in making tea and medicine ▪ *chamomile* tea

[1]champ /'ʧæmp/ *noun, pl* **champs** [*count*] *informal* : CHAMPION ▪ this year's national basketball *champs*

[2]champ *verb* **champs**; **champed**; **champ•ing** : to bite and chew on (something) in a noisy way : CHOMP [+ *obj*] He *champed* his pipe angrily. ▪ The horse was *champing* its bit. [*no obj*] He *champed* on his pipe angrily.
champing at the bit : waiting in an impatient way to do something ▪ We've all been *champing at the bit* to get started on the project.

cham•pagne /ʃæm'peɪn/ *noun, pl* **-pagnes** [*count, noncount*] : a French white wine that has many bubbles and that people often drink on special occasions

cham•pers /'ʃæmpəz/ *noun* [*noncount*] *Brit, informal* : CHAMPAGNE ▪ a glass of *champers*

[1]cham•pi•on /'ʧæmpijən/ *noun, pl* **-ons** [*count*]
1 : someone or something (such as a team or an animal) that has won a contest or competition especially in sports ▪ tennis *champions* ▪ the heavyweight boxing *champion* of the world ▪ Our team will play the defending/reigning/current *champions* next week. ▪ the newly crowned national/world/Olympic *champions* — often used before another noun ▪ a *champion* boxer/skier/swimmer ▪ *champion* racehorses
2 : someone who fights or speaks publicly in support of a person, belief, cause, etc. ▪ He was a *champion* for the working classes. — often + *of* ▪ She was a lawyer and a *champion of* children's rights.

[2]champion *verb* **-ons**; **-oned**; **-on•ing** [+ *obj*] : to fight or speak publicly in support of (a person, belief, cause, etc.) ▪ She is a lawyer who *champions* children's rights. ▪ Our senator *championed* the idea of lowering taxes.

cham•pi•on•ship /'ʧæmpijən,ʃɪp/ *noun, pl* **-ships** [*count*]
1 : an important competition that decides which player or team is the best in a particular sport, game, etc. ▪ the heavyweight boxing *championship* — often plural ▪ We made it to the basketball *championships* this year, but we lost in the final game. — often used before another noun ▪ a *championship* game/race/match/competition
2 : the title of champion in a sport or game ▪ The team hasn't won a *championship* in 30 years. ▪ This year she'll be defending the *championship*. = She'll try to win the *championship* again.

[1]chance /'ʧæns, *Brit* 'ʧɑ:ns/ *noun, pl* **chanc•es**
1 : an opportunity to do something : an amount of time or a situation in which something can be done [*count*] I wanted to call you, but I never got/had the *chance* (to). ▪ I go to the beach every *chance* I get. [=I go whenever I can] ▪ This is the *chance* of a lifetime! ▪ You missed your *chance*. ▪ Everyone deserves a fair *chance* of winning the award. ▪ If you give me a *chance*, I know I can do a good job. ▪ He doesn't give ***second chances*** [=opportunities to try something again after failing one time] ▪ If ***given half a chance*** [=if given some opportunity], she could show everyone how talented she is. — often followed by *to* + *verb* ▪ Here's your *chance to try* something new. ▪ Give me a *chance to explain*. ▪ You have to give the wound a *chance to heal*. [=you have to allow time for the wound to heal] [*noncount*] We didn't have much *chance to talk* about it. ✧ To ***jump/leap/grab at the chance to do something*** is to have an opportunity to do something and to say in an excited way that you will do it or to do it in a very eager way. ▪ She *jumped at the chance* to go to New York City. ✧ If you have a ***fighting chance*** to do something, you may be able to do it by making a great effort. ▪ The patient still has a *fighting chance* to survive. ▪ Their help gave us a *fighting chance* to finish the project on time.
2 : the possibility that something will happen [*count*] There's a good *chance* that we'll finish on time. ▪ There's still a ***slim chance*** [=a small possibility] that we can win. ▪ There's an ***outside chance*** [=a small possibility] that something could go wrong. ▪ ***Chances are*** [=it is very likely that] she has already heard the news. — often + *of* ▪ It increases/reduces the *chance of* getting the disease. ▪ There's a 50 percent *chance of* rain this afternoon. ▪ (*Brit, informal*) The challenger may not have much experience, but I still think he's ***in with a chance of*** winning. [=he has a possibility of winning] — often plural ▪ What are the *chances* [=how likely is it] that we'll have nice weather today? ▪ I think her *chances* of winning the election are good. ▪ "How do you think the team will do this year?" "I ***like their chances***." [=I think they have a good chance of succeeding/winning] [*noncount*] If you are free tonight, is there any *chance* you could join me for dinner? — often + *of* ▪ If you want to have any *chance of* getting the job, you'll have to dress nicely. ▪ The prisoners had little/no *chance of* escape/escaping. ✧ The phrase ***by any chance*** is used when asking questions in a polite way. ▪ Are you free tonight, *by any chance*? ✧ The informal phrases ***fat chance*** and ***not a chance*** are used as a forceful way of saying that there is no possibility that something will happen. ▪ "He says that he'll get here on time." "*Fat chance*!" ▪ "Do you think they'll win?" "*Not a chance*!" ▪ *Fat chance* of that happening!
3 [*noncount*] : the way that events happen when they are not planned or controlled by people : LUCK ▪ There is an element of *chance* [=*luck*] to winning a card game. ▪ Which cards you're given is simply a matter of *chance*. ▪ We planned for everything and ***left nothing to chance*** [=we prepared for everything possible] ▪ That's not the kind of thing you want to ***leave to chance*** [=that's not the kind of thing you don't want to plan or prepare for] ✧ If something happens ***by chance***, people have not planned it or tried to make it happen. ▪ *By* (pure/sheer) *chance*, I saw him again at the grocery store. ▪ We found the house entirely *by chance*. ✧ The phrase ***as chance would have it*** is used to say that something happened because of good or bad luck. ▪ Our car broke down on the road, but *as chance would have it* [=*as it turned out*], there was a garage nearby. ✧ A ***game of chance*** is a game (such as a dice game) in which luck rather than skill decides who wins. ▪ *Games of chance* are illegal in some states.
chance would be a fine thing *Brit, informal* — used to say that something good or desirable is not likely to happen ▪ This candidate promises to solve all the country's financial problems in six months. *Chance would be a fine thing*! [=if only that were possible]
on the off chance — used to talk about something that might happen or be true but that is not likely ▪ I called his office *on the off chance* that he would still be there [=I called because I thought there was a slight chance that he would still be there], but he had already left.
stand a chance : to have a possibility of succeeding ▪ The team *stands a chance* of doing well this year. ▪ I think she ***stands a good chance*** of winning the election. — often used in negative statements ▪ He ***doesn't stand a chance*** against the champion. ▪ She ***stands no chance*** of winning. [=she has no chance of winning]
take a chance : to do something that could have either good or bad results ▪ She's trying to find a publisher who will *take a chance* on her book. [=will publish her book without knowing for certain that it will succeed] ▪ It might not work, but it's a *chance* we'll have to *take*. ▪ I'm not willing to *take that chance*. ▪ He said he couldn't afford to *take any chances*. ▪ He's not afraid to ***take chances*** [=to do things that are risky or dangerous] ▪ She ***was taking no chances*** = She ***wasn't taking any chances*** ▪ "You might not succeed." "I know, but I'll ***take my chances*** anyway."

[2]chance *verb* **chances**; **chanced**; **chanc•ing**
1 [+ *obj*] : to accept the danger of (doing something) : RISK ▪ We knew that the trip was dangerous, but we decided to *chance* it. [=we decided to go on the trip] ▪ He couldn't *chance* playing with a broken toe.
2 [*no obj*] *formal* — used to describe something that happens because of luck or chance; followed by *to* + *verb* ▪ It *chanced* [=(more commonly) *happened*] *to rain* that day. ▪ We *chanced to arrive* at the same time. ▪ a conversation that

chanced to take place outside my apartment

chance upon *also* **chance on** [*phrasal verb*] ***chance upon/on (someone or something)*** *formal* : to find (something) or meet (someone) by chance ▪ She *chanced upon* an original copy of the book in her grandfather's attic. ▪ We *chanced upon* a good restaurant.

chance your arm *Brit, informal* : to take a chance : to do something that could have bad results ▪ The newspaper *chanced its arm* by printing the story.

[3]chance *adj, always used before a noun* : happening without being planned or controlled by people : happening by chance ▪ It was a *chance* encounter/meeting between the two men. ▪ a *chance* event/occurrence/discovery

chan·cel /'ʧænsəl, *Brit* 'ʧɑ:nsəl/ *noun, pl* **-cels** [*count*] : the part of a church that contains the altar and seats for the priest and choir

chan·cel·lery *or* **chan·cel·lory** /'ʧænsələri, *Brit* 'ʧɑ:nsələri/ *noun, pl* **-ler·ies** *or* **-lor·ies** [*count*]

1 : the department of a chancellor or the building where a chancellor's office is located ▪ The prime minister will speak at the State *Chancellery* this afternoon.

2 : the people who work in the department of a chancellor ▪ greeted by members of the *chancellery*

chan·cel·lor /'ʧænsələ, *Brit* 'ʧɑ:nsələ/ *noun, pl* **-lors** [*count*]

1 : the highest government official in Germany and Austria ▪ Germany's *Chancellor* Helmut Kohl

2 a : the head of some U.S. universities ▪ the new *chancellor* of the university **b** : the head of a British university who represents the school but who does not have many responsibilities

3 *Brit* : CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER

4 : a judge in some U.S. courts

Chancellor of the Exchequer *noun, pl* **Chancellors of the Exchequer** [*count*] : an official in the British government who is in charge of taxes and the money that the government spends

chanc·er /'ʧænsə, *Brit* 'ʧɑ:nsə/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *Brit, informal + disapproving* : someone who takes chances and often does improper things to get an advantage over other people

chan·cery /'ʧænsəri, *Brit* 'ʧɑ:nsəri/ *noun* [*singular*]

1 : a government office where public documents are kept

2 a : a type of court in the U.S. **b** ***Chancery*** : a part of the High Court in England and Wales

3 : the office of a group of people who represent their country in a foreign country : the office of an embassy

chancy /'ʧænsi, *Brit* 'ʧɑ:nsi/ *adj* **chanc·i·er**; **-est** [*also more ~; most ~*] *informal* : possibly having a bad result : involving chance or risk : RISKY ▪ Building your own home is a *chancy* business. ▪ Opening a new restaurant can be *chancy*.

chan·de·lier /ˌʃændə'liə/ *noun, pl* **-liers** [*count*] : a large, decorated light that hangs from a ceiling and has branches for holding many light bulbs or candles ▪ the dining room *chandelier* — see picture at LIGHTING

[1]change /'ʧeɪnʤ/ *verb* **chang·es**; **changed**; **chang·ing**

1 a [*no obj*] : to become different ▪ Her mood *changes* every hour. ▪ He's *changed* in appearance. = His appearance has *changed*. ▪ The leaves *change* (in color) from green to red in the fall. ▪ The cars were stopped, waiting for the light/lights to *change* (from red to green). ▪ My, how you've *changed*! ▪ He *changed* from an optimist to/into a pessimist. ▪ The town has *changed* little in recent years. ▪ the *changing* times ▪ the ever-*changing* [=constantly changing] fashions of teenagers **b** [+ *obj*] : to make (someone or something) different ▪ These events have *changed* me in my attitude to/toward life. ▪ He's *changed* his appearance with a new haircut. = His new haircut has *changed* his appearance. ▪ You can't *change* human nature. ▪ Life *changed* him from an optimist into a pessimist. ▪ The leaves ***change color*** from green to red in the fall. — sometimes + *up* in informal U.S. English ▪ She *changed up* her daily routine. ▪ We need to *change* things *up* a little. **c** [*no obj*] : to become something else — usually + *to* or *into* ▪ Winter *changed to/into* spring. ▪ The magician made the rope *change into* a ribbon and then *change* back *into* a rope.

2 a : to replace one thing or person with another [+ *obj*] She *changed* her name when she got married. ▪ We'll have a better view if we *change* our seats for better ones. [=if we move to better seats] ▪ Could you *change* my appointment (from Monday) to Friday? ▪ *change* a record/CD ▪ France has *changed* its monetary unit from the franc to the euro. ▪ She's thinking about *changing* jobs/dentists. [=about leaving her current job/dentist and going to a new one] ▪ *change* the channel on the TV ▪ ***change a (flat) tire*** [=replace a flat tire with one that is not flat] ▪ Let's ***change the subject***. [=let's talk about a different subject] ▪ I've ***changed my opinion/views*** on that subject. [=my opinion on that subject is different now from what it was before] ▪ The police did not believe her because she had ***changed her story***. [=she said something different from what she had said before] [*no obj*] While watching TV, he would constantly *change* from one channel to another. ▪ France has *changed* from the franc to the euro. ▪ The U.S. has been slow to *change* to the metric system. **b** : to move from one position, place, etc., to another [+ *obj*] Mary *changed* [=*exchanged, switched*] places/seats with John. = John and Mary *changed* places/seats (with each other). ▪ He may be rich and famous but I wouldn't *change* places with him for anything in the world. ▪ He was opposed to the project at first, but then he ***changed sides*** and voted in favor of it. [*no obj*] Neither of them liked his seat so they *changed* with each other.

3 [+ *obj*] **a** : to exchange one kind of money for another kind ▪ *change* money from dollars into pounds = *change* dollars into/for pounds **b** : to exchange a larger bill for an equal amount in smaller bills or coins ▪ I need to *change* [=*break*] a $10 bill: can you give me a five and five ones?

4 a : to put on different clothes [*no obj*] Let me *change* out of this suit into something more comfortable. ▪ Do they still *change* (to more formal clothes) for dinner? ▪ I'll need a few minutes to *change* before we go out. [+ *obj*] I'll need a few minutes to ***change my clothes*** before we go out. **b** [+ *obj*] : to put clean clothes on (a baby) ▪ ***change a baby*** = *change* a baby's diaper [=remove a baby's dirty diaper and replace it with a clean one] **c** [+ *obj*] : to put a fresh covering on (a bed) ▪ ***change a bed*** = *change* the sheets on a bed [=remove dirty sheets from a bed and replace them with clean ones]

5 : to move from one plane, train, etc., to another in order to continue a journey [+ *obj*] We'll have to *change* planes in Chicago. [=we'll have to get on another plane in Chicago] [*no obj*] On the bus trip he had to *change* twice.

change around *or Brit* ***change round*** [*phrasal verb*] ***change (something) around/round*** *or* ***change around/round (something)*** : to change the order or positions of the parts of (something) ▪ When I got back everything in my office had been *changed around*. ▪ The schedule has been *changed around* a little.

change down [*phrasal verb*] *Brit* : to change to a lower gear in a motor vehicle : DOWNSHIFT ▪ *Change down* to go uphill.

change gear/gears see [1]GEAR

change hands : to go from one owner to another ▪ The property has *changed hands* many times in recent decades. [=the property has been sold many times] ▪ The restaurant recently *changed hands*. [=the restaurant was recently bought by a new owner]

change horses in midstream see [1]HORSE

change over [*phrasal verb*] ***change over*** *or* ***change (something) over*** *or* ***change over (something)*** : to go from one system, method, etc., to another or to change (one system, method, etc.) to another ▪ It will take a week to *change over* from the old computer network to the new one. ▪ It will take a week to *change* the old computer network *over* to the new one. — see also CHANGEOVER

change someone's/your mind see [1]MIND

change up [*phrasal verb*] *Brit* : to change to a higher gear in a motor vehicle : UPSHIFT ▪ *Change up* on the highway. — see also [1]CHANGE 1b (above)

change your tune see [1]TUNE

change your ways see [1]WAY

– chang·er *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] ▪ a CD *changer* ▪ a money *changer*

[2]change *noun, pl* **changes**

1 : the act, process, or result of changing: such as **a** : the act of becoming different or of causing someone or something to become different [*noncount*] There has been little if any *change* in her daily routine. ▪ You shouldn't be afraid of *change*. *Change* is a natural part of life. ▪ The terms of this contract are subject to *change* without notice. [=the terms can be changed at any time] [*count*] The years have brought many *changes* to the town's economy. ▪ We need to make some *changes* in/to the system. ▪ Many voters believe that it's time for a *change*. ▪ We've had to make a slight *change* in the schedule. ▪ There has been a *change* in/to our plans. = There's been a ***change of plan***. [=we have changed our plans] ▪ ***a change for the better*** [=an improvement] ▪ ***a change for***

C

the worse — see also SEA CHANGE **b** [*count*] : the act of replacing one thing with another ▪ a *change* of address/name ▪ *changes* of mood/attitude/tone ▪ I enjoy the ***change of seasons*** every year. [=I enjoy seeing the seasons change from winter to spring, etc.] ▪ The car needs an ***oil change***. [=needs to have the old, dirty oil removed and replaced with clean oil] **c** [*count*] : the act of moving from one plane, train, etc., to another in order to continue a journey ▪ If you take this flight you'll need to make a *change* (of planes) in Chicago. [=you'll need to change planes in Chicago]

2 [*singular*] : something that is different from what is usual or expected ▪ We've been so busy that a quiet day at home was a welcome *change*. ▪ We eat at home a lot, so dining out sometimes is/makes a nice *change*. ▪ (*chiefly Brit*) So you've done the cooking for once in your life! Well, that ***makes a change***! ▪ I've been stuck here in the city for months. I could really use ***a change of scene/scenery***. = (*chiefly Brit*) I could really use a ***change of air***. [=I would like to go somewhere else for a time] — see also FOR A CHANGE (below)

3 [*noncount*] **a** : smaller bills or coins that are given for a larger bill ▪ Have you got *change* for a $10 bill? **b** : the money returned when a payment is more than the amount needed ▪ It cost $9 and I gave you $10, so I should be getting $1 in *change*. ▪ "It costs $9." "Here's $10. You can ***keep the change***." ▪ (*US*) Can you ***make change*** for a twenty? [=can you give me change if I pay with a $20 bill?] **c** : money in the form of coins ▪ I've got a $10 bill and about $3 in *change*. [=*coins*] ▪ a pocketful of ***loose change*** ▪ The beggar asked us if we had any ***spare change***. [=a small amount of money that we did not need] — see also CHANGE PURSE, SMALL CHANGE **d** *US, informal* : MONEY — used in the phrase ***chunk of change*** ▪ She inherited a large/hefty/nice *chunk of change* [=a large amount of money] from her aunt.

4 [*count*] : a clean set of clothes that someone can wear if they are needed ▪ For a weekend in the country you'll need several *changes* of clothes. ▪ The only extra clothes he took with him were a pair of socks and a *change* of underwear.

5 [*count*] *baseball, informal* : CHANGEUP ▪ The batter struck out on a straight *change*.

6 *the change* *informal + old-fashioned* : CHANGE OF LIFE ▪ women who are going through *the change*

and change *US, informal* : and a very small additional amount ▪ There's only six minutes *and change* left in the game. [=there's only a little more than six minutes left in the game]

for a change : as something different from what is usual ▪ Let's eat out *for a change*. ▪ Why don't you help me out *for a change* instead of me always helping you?!

ring the changes see [3]RING

change•able /ˈʧeɪnʤəbəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : able to change or to be changed ▪ The terms of this contract are easily *changeable*.

2 : changing often or suddenly ▪ *changeable* weather ▪ *changeable* and unreliable people

– **change•abil•i•ty** /ˌʧeɪnʤəˈbɪləti/ *also* **change•able•ness** /ˈʧeɪnʤəbəlnəs/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the *changeability* of the weather

change•less /ˈʧeɪnʤləs/ *adj* : never changing : always staying the same ▪ the *changeless* [=*unchanging*] rhythms of nature ▪ *changeless* [=*constant*] values

– **change•less•ly** *adv* – **change•less•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

change•ling /ˈʧeɪnʤlɪŋ/ *noun, pl* **-lings** [*count*] *in stories* : a baby that is secretly left to replace another baby

change of heart *noun* [*singular*] : an important change in the way a person feels or thinks about something ▪ He had planned to retire but he had a sudden *change of heart* and decided to continue working.

change of life *noun*

the change of life *somewhat old-fashioned* : MENOPAUSE ▪ women approaching or going through *the change of life*

change of pace *noun, pl* **changes of pace** [*count*]

1 : a new activity or situation that comes after another activity or situation which has lasted for long time — usually singular ▪ He took a few days off work to give himself a welcome and much-needed *change of pace*.

2 *baseball* : CHANGEUP — usually singular ▪ The batter struck out on a *change of pace*.

change•over /ˈʧeɪnʤˌoʊvɚ/ *noun, pl* **-overs** [*count*] : a change from one condition, system, method, etc., to another ▪ Were there any problems during the *changeover* from the franc to the euro? — see also *change over* at [1]CHANGE

change purse *noun, pl* ~ **purses** [*count*] *US* : a very small bag for carrying coins

change•up /ˈʧeɪnʤˌʌp/ *noun, pl* **-ups** [*count*] *baseball* : a slow pitch that is thrown with the same motion as a fastball in order to fool the batter ▪ The batter struck out on a *changeup*.

changing room *noun, pl* ~ **rooms** [*count*] : a room where people can change their clothes in a public place (such as a store); *especially, Brit* : LOCKER ROOM

changing table *noun, pl* ~ **tables** [*count*] : a table used for changing a baby's clothes or diapers

[1]chan•nel /ˈʧænl/ *noun, pl* **-nels** [*count*]

1 : a television or radio station ▪ The TV program airs at 8:00 p.m. on *Channel* 5. ▪ Change the *channel*, please. ▪ What is your favorite radio *channel*? ▪ a movie/news/sports *channel*

2 a : a system used for sending something (such as information or supplies) from one place or person to another ▪ E-mail is a *channel* of communication. — often plural ▪ To make a complaint, you will need to go through (the) official/proper *channels*. ▪ the ordinary *channels* of trade ▪ the army's distribution/supply *channels* **b** : a way of expressing your ideas, feelings, etc., to other people ▪ Art provides a *channel* for creativity. ▪ Music became a *channel* for her emotions.

3 : a path, tube, or long narrow place where water flows ▪ A system of irrigation *channels* brings water to the fields.

4 : a deep part of a river, harbor, or other body of water where ships can go ▪ a narrow *channel* of the Mississippi River

5 : a narrow area of the sea between two large areas of land that are close together ▪ We took a ferryboat across the English *Channel* to France.

[2]channel *verb* **-nels**; *US* **-neled** *or Brit* **-nelled**; *US* **-neling** *or Brit* **-nel•ling** [+ *obj*]

1 : to express (your ideas, thoughts, feelings, energy, etc.) through a particular behavior or action ▪ She's started *channeling* her anger towards me. — often + *into* ▪ His aggression was *channeled into* playing football. ▪ Actors learn how to *channel* their own emotions *into* their characters.

2 : to send (food, money, etc.) to someone or something ▪ He *channeled* millions of dollars into/to the program. — often + *through* ▪ Food, clothes, and money were *channeled through* churches to the poor people of the village.

3 : to carry and move (something, such as water) in or through a tube, passage, etc. ▪ Their irrigation system *channels* water to the corn fields.

4 : to allow (the spirit of a dead person) to enter your body in order to talk with living people ▪ She said that she was *channeling* my father and that he had a message for me.

channel surfing *noun* [*noncount*] : the activity of using a remote control to change television stations quickly as you look for something to watch — called also *channel-hopping*

[1]chant /ˈʧænt, *Brit* ˈʧɑːnt/ *verb* **chants**; **chant•ed**; **chanting**

1 : to say (a word or phrase) many times in a rhythmic way usually loudly and with other people [+ *obj*] The crowd began *chanting* her name. ▪ They *chanted* "Sara, Sara" until she came back on stage. [*no obj*] Protesters were *chanting* outside the governor's home.

2 : to sing words and especially religious prayers by using a small number of musical notes that are repeated many times [*no obj*] They were *chanting* in Arabic/Latin/Hebrew/Sanskrit. [+ *obj*] Priests *chanted* the Catholic Mass in Latin.

[2]chant *noun, pl* **chants**

1 [*count*] : a word or phrase that is repeated in a rhythmic way usually loudly and by a group of people ▪ Our *chant* was "Peace now, peace now!"

2 : a kind of singing using a small number of musical notes that are repeated many times [*count*] a religious *chant* [*noncount*] *Chant* is often used as a form of meditation and prayer. — see also GREGORIAN CHANT

chan•tey *or* **chan•ty** /ˈʃænti/ *noun, pl* **chan•teys** *or* **chan•ties** [*count*] *US* : SHANTY 2

Chanukah *variant spelling of* HANUKKAH

cha•os /ˈkeɪˌɑːs/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 : complete confusion and disorder : a state in which behavior and events are not controlled by anything ▪ The loss of electricity caused *chaos* throughout the city. ▪ When the police arrived, the street was in total/complete/absolute *chaos*. ▪ The country had descended into economic *chaos*.

2 : the state of the universe before there was any order and before stars and planets were formed

cha•ot•ic /keɪˈɑːtɪk/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : in a state of

complete confusion or disorder ▪ a *chaotic* political race ▪ After he became famous, his life became even more *chaotic*.
– **cha•ot•i•cal•ly** /keɪˈɑːtɪkli/ *adv*

chap /ˈʧæp/ *noun, pl* **chaps** [*count*] *chiefly Brit, informal* + *somewhat old-fashioned* : a man ▪ He's a friendly sort of *chap*. [=*fellow*, *guy*] ▪ Don't worry old *chap*. It'll be all right. — see also CHAPS

chap. *abbr* chapter

chap•ar•ral /ˌʃæpəˈræl/ *noun* [*noncount*] *US* : an area of dry land especially in southern California that is covered with bushes and short trees

chap•el /ˈʧæpəl/ *noun, pl* **-els**
1 [*count*] : a small church ▪ a country *chapel* ▪ a wedding *chapel* in Las Vegas
2 [*count*] : a room or small building that is used for private church services or prayer by a family or group ▪ school/hospital/prison *chapels* ▪ the family's private *chapel*
3 [*count*] : a room or area in a church that is used for prayer or small religious services ▪ Church services will be held in the *chapel* this week.
4 [*noncount*] : Christian religious services held in a chapel ▪ At our school, we always went to *chapel* twice a day.

[1]chap•er•one *also* **chap•er•on** /ˈʃæpəˌroʊn/ *noun, pl* **-ones** *also* **-ons** [*count*]
1 *US* : someone (such as a teacher or parent) who goes with children on a trip or to a school dance to make sure that the children behave properly ▪ I was a *chaperone* on one of my son's school trips.
2 : a person in the past who went with a young unmarried woman to social events in order to make sure that the woman behaved properly

[2]chaperone *also* **chaperon** *verb* **-ones** *or* **-ons**; **-oned**; **-on•ing** [+ *obj*] : to be a chaperone to or for (someone or something) ▪ Two parents *chaperoned* the children. ▪ My mom always *chaperoned* the school dances.

chap•lain /ˈʧæplən/ *noun, pl* **-lains** [*count*] : a priest or other Christian religious leader who performs religious services for a military group (such as the army) or for a prison, hospital, etc.

chap•lain•cy /ˈʧæplənsi/ *noun, pl* **-cies** [*count*]
1 : the position or work of a chaplain ▪ He accepted the *chaplaincy*.
2 : the place where a chaplain works

chapped /ˈʧæpt/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *of the skin or lips* : red, dry, and cracked usually because of cold air or wind ▪ *chapped* lips/skin

chaps /ˈʃæps, ˈʧæps/ *noun* [*plural*] : leather coverings for the legs that cowboys and cowgirls wear over their pants when they ride horses ▪ a pair of *chaps*

chap•ter /ˈʧæptɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ters** [*count*]
1 : one of the main sections of a book ▪ *Chapter* three deals with the country's economy. ▪ Please read the first two *chapters* of your textbook for our next class.
2 : a period of time that is very different from the period of time before it ▪ Becoming a parent opened up a whole new *chapter* in my life. ▪ a difficult *chapter* in European history
3 : the people in a certain area who make up one section of a large organization ▪ local/regional *chapters* [=*branches*] of the American Red Cross
a chapter of accidents *Brit, informal* : a series of bad or unfortunate events
chapter and verse : exact information or details about something ▪ He can give *chapter and verse* about/on the dangers of smoking.

[1]char /ˈʧɑɚ/ *verb* **chars**; **charred**; **char•ring** : to burn or cook (something) until it is black [+ *obj*] Thousands of trees were *charred* in the fire. ▪ Dad *charred* the hamburgers on the grill. [*no obj*] The hamburgers *charred* on the grill. — see also CHARRED — compare [2]CHAR

[2]char *verb* **chars**; **charred**; **charring** [*no obj*] *Brit, old-fashioned* : to work as a cleaner especially in a large house or building — compare [1]CHAR

[3]char *noun, pl* **chars** [*count*] *Brit, old-fashioned* : CHARWOMAN

char•ac•ter /ˈkerɪktɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ters**
1 [*count*] : the way someone thinks, feels, and behaves : someone's personality — usually singular ▪ He rarely shows his true *character*—that of a kind and sensitive person. ▪ This is a side of her *character* that few people have seen. ▪ the different aspects/facets of her *character* — often used before another noun ▪ Certain *character* traits are helpful in the teaching profession. ▪ Pride, his one *character* flaw, caused his downfall.
2 [*count*] : a set of qualities that are shared by many people in a group, country, etc. — usually singular ▪ the *character* of the American people ▪ the *character* of a nation ▪ the French/Japanese/Mexican national *character*
3 a : a set of qualities that make a place or thing different from other places or things [*count*] the wine's distinctive *character* ▪ the unique *character* of the town/city/region [*noncount*] The building is very simple in *character*. ✧ If something is ***in character with something else***, it has the same qualities or characteristics as something else. ▪ This room is not really *in character with* the rest of the house. **b** [*noncount*] : the qualities or characteristics that make something interesting or special ▪ The room lacks *character*. [=there's nothing special about the room] ▪ Their house has a lot of *character*.
4 [*count*] : a person who appears in a story, book, play, movie, or television show ▪ The film's main *characters* are a woman in her late 30s and her elderly neighbor. ▪ She plays the film's lead/main/central *character*. ▪ a fictional *character* [=a character in a work of fiction] ▪ a popular cartoon *character* ▪ the ***title character*** of the book *Tom Sawyer* [=the character named Tom Sawyer] — see also *cast of characters* at [2]CAST
5 [*count*] *informal* **a** : a particular type of person ▪ He's a strange/interesting *character*. **b** : a person who says or does funny or unusual things ▪ That husband of yours is a real *character*! ▪ She's quite a *character*.
6 [*noncount*] **a** : the good qualities of a person that usually include moral or emotional strength, honesty, and fairness ▪ She's a kind and honest person of good *character*. ▪ They believe that going to church will improve the moral *character* of their children. ▪ He is admired for his ***strength of character*** in stressful situations. ▪ Playing sports is seen as a way to ***build character*** in young people. = Playing sports is seen as ***character-building*** for young people. ✧ A ***test of (your) character*** is something that is difficult and that requires you to show that you are a good and emotionally strong person. ▪ These past few days have been a real *test of my character*. **b** : the usually good beliefs or opinions that most people have about a particular person ▪ They defended the *character* [=*reputation*] of their friend. ▪ an attack on his *character*
7 [*count*] : a symbol (such as a letter or number) that is used in writing or printing ▪ the Chinese *character* for "water" ▪ The line is 30 *characters* long.
in character, out of character — used to say that some action or behavior is or is not like someone's usual way of behaving ▪ It was entirely *in character* for a generous person like her to give him the money. ▪ His rudeness was completely *out of character*. [=he is not usually rude]

character actor *noun, pl* ~ **-tors** [*count*] : an actor who is known for playing many different and unusual characters

character assassination *noun* [*noncount*] : the act of saying false things about a person usually in order to make the public stop liking or trusting that person ▪ None of those rumors are true. She's been the victim of *character assassination*.

char•ac•ter•ful /ˈkerɪktɚfəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *chiefly Brit* : having interesting or unusual qualities : having character ▪ a *characterful* old house

[1]char•ac•ter•is•tic /ˌkerɪktəˈrɪstɪk/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : typical of a person, thing, or group : showing the special qualities or traits of a person, thing, or group ▪ He responded to their comments with *characteristic* good humor. ▪ the herb's *characteristic* flavor — often + *of* ▪ Such behavior is not *characteristic of* a good neighbor.
– **char•ac•ter•is•ti•cal•ly** /ˌkerɪktəˈrɪstɪkli/ *adv* ▪ She was *characteristically* modest when she accepted the reward.

[2]characteristic *noun, pl* **-tics** [*count*] : a special quality or trait that makes a person, thing, or group different from others ▪ physical/genetic *characteristics* — often + *of* ▪ What are some of the *characteristics of* this breed of dog? ▪ the distinctive/unique *characteristics of* the population

char•ac•ter•i•za•tion /ˌkerɪktərəˈzeɪʃən, *Brit* ˌkærɪktəˌraɪˈzeɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**
1 *somewhat formal* : the act of describing the character or qualities of someone or something [*count*] The reporter was criticized for his *characterization* of the people of the town as poor and uneducated. [*noncount*] News reporting requires accurate *characterization*.
2 : the way a writer makes a person in a story, book, play, movie, or television show seem like a real person [*count*] The class discussed the author's *characterization* of the boy

as someone who wanted to be accepted by others. [*noncount*] The story has good *characterization*.

char•ac•ter•ize *also Brit* **char•ac•ter•ise** /ˈkerɪktəˌraɪz/ *verb* **-iz•es**; **-ized**; **-iz•ing** [+ *obj*] *somewhat formal*

1 : to describe the character or special qualities of (someone or something) ▪ How would you *characterize* the situation/problem? ▪ I would *characterize* this as a positive change for our company. ▪ She had difficulty *characterizing* their relationship. ▪ His personality is hard to *characterize*. ▪ The newspaper article *characterizes* [=*portrays*] the people of the town as poor and uneducated.

2 : to be a typical feature or quality of (someone or something) ▪ Humor and intelligence *characterize* [=*mark*, *distinguish*] his writing. ▪ Farms and large flat fields *characterize* most of the area. ▪ the beliefs that *characterized* Europe in the 15th century — often used as *(be) characterized* ▪ The disease *is characterized* by a rise in blood pressure.

char•ac•ter•less /ˈkerɪktəɫəs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not having any interesting or unusual qualities : lacking character ▪ rows of *characterless* houses ▪ Their food is bland and *characterless*.

cha•rade /ʃəˈreɪd, *Brit* ʃəˈrɑːd/ *noun, pl* **-rades**

1 [*count*] : something that is done in order to pretend something is true when it is not really true ▪ Her concern was just a *charade*. [=she pretended to be concerned but she was not] ▪ We've grown tired of your *charades*. ▪ an empty *charade*

2 *charades* [*plural*] : a game in which players try to guess a word or phrase from the actions of another player who is not allowed to speak ▪ Let's play *charades*! ▪ a game of *charades*

char•broil /ˈʧɑəˌbrojəl/ *verb* **-broils**; **-broiled**; **-broil•ing** [+ *obj*] *US* : to cook (something) on a rack above charcoal ▪ I am going to *charbroil* the chicken.

– **charbroiled** *adj* ▪ *charbroiled* steak/chicken/salmon

char•coal /ˈʧɑəˌkoʊl/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 : a hard black material that is made by burning wood with a small amount of air ✧ *Charcoal* is burned for cooking food and is also made into sticks that are used for drawing pictures. ▪ hamburgers cooked over *charcoal* ▪ a *charcoal* grill ▪ *charcoal* drawings

2 : a dark gray color — see color picture on page C2

chard /ˈʧɑəd/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a plant with large leaves that are eaten as a vegetable — called also *Swiss chard*; see color picture on page C4

Char•don•nay /ˌʃɑəd̩nˈeɪ/ *noun, pl* **-nays** [*count, noncount*] : a type of dry white wine

[1]charge /ˈʧɑəʤ/ *verb* **charg•es**; **charged**; **charg•ing**

1 [+ *obj*] : to give an amount of electricity to (something) : to put electricity into a battery so that a machine or device will run ▪ We tried to *charge* the car's battery. ▪ My cell phone needs to be *charged*. = The battery in my cell phone needs to be charged.

2 [+ *obj*] *formal* : to give a job or responsibility to (a person or group) : to make (a person or group) responsible for something — usually used as *(be) charged*; usually + *with* ▪ The board *was charged with* deciding where to build a new school. ▪ the department *charged with* helping war veterans

3 [+ *obj*] **a** : to formally accuse (someone) of a crime — usually + *with* ▪ They *charged* him *with* theft. ▪ She was *charged with* murder. **b** : to say that someone has done something wrong ▪ The government *charged* that he had not paid taxes for five years. ▪ It is not clear if he violated the rules, as his critics have *charged*. **c** : to say that a player has broken the rules in a game ▪ The basketball player was *charged* with a foul.

4 a [+ *obj*] : to rush toward (a person, place, etc.) ▪ The bull *charged* the matador. ▪ Fans *charged* [=*rushed*] the stage but were stopped by the security guards. **b** [*no obj*] : to rush in a particular direction ▪ People *charged* toward the stage. ▪ She came *charging* into the room. ▪ The bull *charged* right at me. ▪ a *charging* rhinoceros

5 [+ *obj*] : to create a record of an amount of money that is owed ▪ The clerk *charged* the purchase to my account. ▪ The expenses were *charged* against the company's earnings.

6 a : to ask for money in return for providing or doing something [*no obj*] Do you *charge* for fixing flat tires? [+ *obj*] They *charge* a fee for late payment. ▪ *charge* tuition **b** [+ *obj*] : to ask for (a specific amount of money) as a price, rate, or fee ▪ The shop *charged* $100 for repairs. ▪ The bank *charged* eight percent interest on the loan. **c** [+ *obj*] : to ask for payment from (a customer, client, etc.) ▪ They *charged* me $500 to fix the engine. ▪ She *charged* the city thousands of dollars for her work.

[2]charge *noun, pl* **charges**

1 [*count*] **a** : an amount of electricity ▪ an electrical *charge* **b** : the amount of an explosive material (such as dynamite) that is used in a single blast ▪ He set off a *charge* that destroyed the mountain. — compare DEPTH CHARGE

2 [*noncount*] : the responsibility of managing or watching over something ▪ He has *charge* of the building. ▪ He wanted to ***take charge*** [=*take control*] of the organization.

3 [*count*] : an amount of money that someone asks for in return for providing or doing something : the price charged for something ▪ There is no *charge* for fixing the tire. ▪ a delivery *charge* for the refrigerator ▪ a monthly *charge* ▪ an admission *charge* at the fair ▪ The concert at the school is ***free of charge***. [=costs nothing to attend] ▪ A second member of your family can join ***at no charge***. [=without paying]

synonyms see [1]PRICE

4 [*count*] **a** *law* : a formal accusation that someone committed a crime ▪ a *charge* of burglary ▪ They dropped the *charges* against him. ▪ She pleaded guilty to a lesser *charge*. ▪ He decided not to ***bring/press charges***. [=to formally accuse someone of a crime] ▪ Will she ***face charges***? [=will she be charged?] **b** : a statement that criticizes someone or says that someone has done something wrong : an accusation or criticism ▪ The senator rejects *charges* that he is too liberal. ▪ She responded to the *charges* of plagiarism.

5 [*count*] *formal* : a person (such as a child) that another person must guard or take care of ▪ She loved to play with her young *charges* at the day-care center.

6 [*count*] : a judge's instructions to a jury before it begins deciding a verdict ▪ The judge delivered his *charge* to the jury.

7 [*count*] : an act of running or rushing forward especially in order to make an attack ▪ a cavalry *charge* ▪ Tennyson's poem "The *Charge* of the Light Brigade"

8 [*singular*] *US, informal* : a feeling of joy or excitement ▪ The children ***got a charge out of*** [=were amused by] the juggler. ▪ He *gets a charge out of* teasing his sister.

in charge : having control of or responsibility for something ▪ She is *in charge* of hiring new employees. ▪ I am not sure who is *in charge* at the restaurant.

reverse the charges see [1]REVERSE

charge•able /ˈʧɑəʤəbəl/ *adj*

1 : able to be charged ▪ The business lunch was *chargeable* to the company. ▪ *chargeable* interest

2 : able to be treated as a crime ▪ an act *chargeable* under federal law ▪ a *chargeable* offense

charge account *noun, pl* ~ **-counts** [*count*] *US* : an arrangement in which a bank, store, etc., allows a customer to buy things with a credit card and pay for them later — called also (*Brit*) *credit account*

charge card *noun, pl* ~ **cards** [*count*] : CREDIT CARD

charged /ˈʧɑəʤd/ *adj*

1 *technical* : having an amount of electricity ▪ a *charged* particle

2 [*more* ~; *most* ~] : showing or causing strong feelings ▪ The singer gave an emotionally *charged* interview. ▪ a politically *charged* subject — often + *up* ▪ The crowd was all *charged up* [=was very excited] during the game.

char•gé d'af•faires /ʃɑəˌʒeɪdəˈfeəˑ/ *noun, pl* **char•gés d'af•faires** /ʃɑəˌʒeɪdəˈfeəˑ/ [*count*]

1 : a person who takes the place of an ambassador when the ambassador is away

2 : a person with a lower rank than an ambassador who works as a diplomat in countries where no ambassador is assigned

charge nurse *noun, pl* ~ **nurses** [*count*] : a nurse who is in charge of one section of a hospital

charg•er /ˈʧɑəʤəˑ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

1 : a device that is used to add electricity to batteries

2 *literary* : a horse that a knight or soldier rides in battle

charge sheet *noun, pl* ~ **sheets** [*count*] *Brit* : RAP SHEET ▪ The suspect already has a long *charge sheet*.

char•i•ot /ˈʧerijət/ *noun, pl* **-ots** [*count*] : a carriage with two wheels that was pulled by horses and was raced and used in battle in ancient times ▪ a *chariot* race

char•i•o•teer /ˌʧerijəˈtiəˑ/ *noun, pl* **-teers** [*count*] : a driver of a chariot

cha•ris•ma /kəˈrɪzmə/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a special charm or appeal that causes people to feel attracted and excited by someone (such as a politican) ▪ The candidate was lacking in *charisma*. ▪ His success is largely due to his *charisma*.

char•is•mat•ic /ˌkerəzˈmætɪk/ *adj*

1 [*more* ~; *most* ~] : having great charm or appeal : filled

with charisma ▪ He is a *charismatic* leader.
2 — used to describe Christian religious groups whose members believe that they can communicate directly with God to receive help and guidance and the power to heal others ▪ *charismatic* sects

char•i•ta•ble /ˈʧerətəbəl/ *adj*
1 : done or designed to help people who are poor, sick, etc. ▪ She makes a *charitable* donation/contribution every year. ▪ He performs *charitable* work to help the poor. ▪ *charitable* organizations ▪ They give money to *charitable* causes.
2 [*more ~; most ~*] : showing kindness in talking about or judging other people : not very critical ▪ She has tried to be *charitable* about her sister's problems. ▪ They tried to find a *charitable* explanation for his actions. [=an explanation that assumes that there was a good reason for his actions] ▪ Half of the class has a chance at passing the test, and that is a *charitable* estimate.
– **char•i•ta•bly** /ˈʧerətəbli/ *adv* ▪ His paintings could *charitably* be described as unique. [=they are unique even though they are not very good] ▪ To put it *charitably*, she is not the most talented actress I've ever seen. [=she is not a talented actress]

char•i•ty /ˈʧerəti/ *noun, pl* **-ties**
1 [*noncount*] : the act of giving money, food, or other kinds of help to people who are poor, sick, etc. ▪ The holidays are a time for *charity* and good will.; *also* : something (such as money or food) that is given to people who are poor, sick, etc. ▪ She refused to accept *charity*. ✧ The phrase ***charity begins at home*** means you should take care of yourself and your family before helping others.
2 a [*count*] : an organization that helps people who are poor, sick, etc. ▪ The dinner was held to raise funds for several *charities*. ▪ She runs a local *charity* that gives books to children. **b** [*noncount*] : the organizations that help people in need ▪ All the money will go to *charity*. — often used before another noun ▪ a *charity* concert/dinner/event [=a concert/dinner/event held to raise money for a charity]

charity shop *noun, pl ~* **shops** [*count*] *Brit* : a store that sells used clothes, goods, etc., in order to raise money for people who are poor, sick, etc. — compare THRIFT SHOP

char•la•tan /ˈʃɑɚlətən/ *noun, pl* **-tans** [*count*] : a person who falsely pretends to know or be something in order to deceive people ▪ Some people thought he was a great leader, but others saw him as just a *charlatan*. [=*fake, fraud*]

Charles•ton /ˈʧɑɚlstən/ *noun*
the Charleston : a lively dance that became popular in the 1920s

char•ley horse /ˈʧɑɚli-/ *noun, pl ~* **horses** [*count*] *US* : a painful cramp in the front of the thigh

[1]charm /ˈʧɑɚm/ *noun, pl* **charms**
1 [*count*] : something that is believed to have magic powers and especially to prevent bad luck ▪ He keeps a horseshoe as a good luck *charm*.
2 [*count*] : a small object that is worn on a chain or bracelet ▪ a gold *charm* ▪ a *charm* bracelet — see color picture on page C11
3 : a quality that causes someone or something to be very likeable : an attractive quality [*count*] He fell under the spell of her *charms*. ▪ The resort has many *charms*. ▪ The inn has a quaint *charm*. [*noncount*] The island possesses great *charm*. ▪ The new curtains add *charm* to the room. ▪ The seaside location is a big part of the house's *charm*. ▪ He won her over with his *charm*.
the third time is the charm see [1]THIRD
work like a charm : to produce a desired result very easily and effectively : to work very well ▪ The cleaning fluid *worked like a charm* on the carpet stain.
– **charm•less** *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] ▪ The new building is completely *charmless*. [=*unattractive*]

[2]charm *verb* **charms**; **charmed**; **charm•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to put a spell on (someone or something) ▪ The snake was *charmed* by the music.
2 a : to cause (someone) to like you or to do what you want by being nice, friendly, etc. ▪ He was known for his ability to *charm* voters. ▪ She *charmed* [=*captivated*] everyone with her warm smile. ▪ He *charmed* the committee into approving his proposal. **b** : to attract (someone) by being beautiful or welcoming ▪ I was *charmed* by the cozy country inn.
– **charm•er** *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] ▪ Your little girl is a real *charmer*. [=she is sweet, cute, etc.] ▪ a snake *charmer*

charmed /ˈʧɑɚmd/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : very lucky : having good luck ▪ She has always ***lived/led a charmed life***.

charmed circle *noun, pl ~* **circles** [*count*] : a group of people who are special or powerful in some way ▪ a famous writer and her *charmed circle* in Paris

charm•ing /ˈʧɑɚmɪŋ/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : very pleasing or appealing : full of charm ▪ a *charming* little café by the sea ▪ a *charming* young man
– **charm•ing•ly** *adv* ▪ a *charmingly* decorated room

charred /ʧɑɚd/ *adj* : made black from burning ▪ The remains of the house were *charred*. ▪ *charred* wood — see also CHAR

[1]chart /ˈʧɑɚt/ *noun, pl* **charts** [*count*]
1 a : information in the form of a table, diagram, etc. ▪ a *chart* showing the number of cars sold each month — see also BAR CHART, FLOW CHART, PIE CHART **b** : a record of information about a medical patient ▪ The doctor consulted the patient's *chart*. — see picture at HOSPITAL
2 : a map of an area (such as the sky or ocean) used by pilots, sailors, etc.
3 : a list that shows which music recordings have sold the most during a recent period of time ▪ a ***chart-topper*** [=a recording that is bought more than any other recording during a particular time] — usually plural; usually used with *the* ▪ The record went to the top of *the charts*. ▪ *the* country music *charts*

[2]chart *verb* **charts**; **chart•ed**; **chart•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to make a chart of (an area) ▪ They *charted* the bay.; *also* : to mark (something) on a chart ▪ They *charted* the course of the ship.
2 : to make a plan for (something) ▪ She wanted to *chart* her own career path. ▪ He will try to *chart* a new course for the company.
3 : to note the changes, progress, etc., in (something) ▪ a book that *charts* [=*chronicles*] the rise and fall of the Roman Empire ▪ analysts *charting* trends in the stock market

[1]char•ter /ˈʧɑɚtɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ters** [*count*]
1 : a document issued by a government that gives rights to a person or group ▪ The *charter* allows for unrestricted trading.
2 a : a document which declares that a city, town, school, or corporation has been established ▪ the town *charter* ▪ a corporate *charter* **b** : a document that describes the basic laws, principles, etc., of a group ▪ the United Nations *Charter*

[2]charter *verb* **-ters**; **-tered**; **-ter•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to give a charter to (a government, corporation, etc.) ▪ a royally *chartered* bank ▪ The city was *chartered* in 1837.
2 : to hire (a ship, bus, etc.) for temporary use ▪ The team *chartered* a plane. ▪ *charter* a flight

[3]charter *adj, always used before a noun* : hired for temporary use ▪ a *charter* flight ▪ a *charter* plane

chartered *adj, always used before a noun, Brit* : allowed to work in a certain job because you have passed a test or qualified in some other way ▪ a *chartered* engineer

chartered accountant *noun, pl ~* **-tants** [*count*] *Brit* : CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT

charter member *noun, pl ~* **-bers** [*count*] *US* : FOUNDING MEMBER

charter school *noun, pl ~* **schools** [*count*] *US* : a school that is established by a charter, is run by teachers, parents, etc., and uses tax money but does not have to be run according to the rules of a city or state

char•wom•an /ˈʧɑɚˌwʊmən/ *noun, pl* **-wom•en** /-ˌwɪmən/ [*count*] *old-fashioned* : a woman who cleans houses or office buildings

chary /ˈʧeri/ *adj* **char•i•er**; **-est** : cautious about doing something — + *about* or *of* ▪ She is *chary about* spending money. ▪ He is *chary of* expressing his emotions.

[1]chase /ˈʧeɪs/ *noun, pl* **chas•es**
1 [*count*] : the act of following and trying to catch a person, animal, etc. ▪ Police caught the bank robbers after a high-speed *chase* on the highway. ▪ a car *chase*
2 [*singular*] : an eager attempt to get something ▪ Though she has repeatedly failed to capture the world record, she refuses to give up the *chase*. [=she keeps trying] ▪ He was always trying to find a new girlfriend and seemed to enjoy ***the thrill of the chase***. — see also WILD GOOSE CHASE
3 [*count*] *chiefly Brit* : STEEPLECHASE
cut to the chase : to go directly to the important points of a story, argument, etc., ▪ She urged him to skip the details and *cut to the chase*. [=*get to the point*]
give chase : to chase someone or something ▪ The officer saw the thief and *gave chase*. — often + *to* ▪ Police *gave chase to* the suspect as he fled the scene.

[2]chase *verb* **chases**; **chased**; **chas•ing**

1 : to follow and try to catch (someone or something) [+ *obj*] The cops *chased* the thief. ▪ a child *chasing* a balloon [*no obj*] — + *after* ▪ My dog *chases after* butterflies. **2 a** : to try very hard to get (someone or something) [+ *obj*] a journalist who is *chasing* a big story [*no obj*] — + *after* ▪ He's been *chasing after* the world record all season. **b** : to try to attract (someone) for a romantic or sexual relationship [+ *obj*] He was always *chasing* women half his age. [*no obj*] — + *after* ▪ He was always *chasing after* women half his age. **3** *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [+ *obj*] : to cause (someone or something) to go away ▪ She *chased* a dog off the lawn. ▪ He *chased* the kids away from his new car. ▪ She *chased* the cats out of her garden. ▪ Our last mayor was *chased* from office by political enemies. ▪ Her reassuring letter helped to *chase* away my fears.

chase down [*phrasal verb*] ***chase (someone or something) down*** *or* ***chase down (someone or something)*** **1** : to follow and catch (someone or something) ▪ Police *chased down* the robber in an alley. **2** : to search for and find (someone or something) ▪ I finally *chased down* [=*tracked down*, *found*, (*Brit*) *chased up*] that recipe I promised you.

chase up [*phrasal verb*] *Brit* **1** ***chase (something) up*** *or* ***chase up (something)*** : to search for and find (someone or something) ▪ Can you *chase up* those files for me? **2** ***chase (someone) up*** *or* ***chase up (someone)*** : to contact or find (someone) usually in order to get something ▪ His landlord had to *chase him up* for his rent.

chas•er /ˈʧeɪsɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a different alcoholic drink that is drunk immediately after you have drunk a stronger or weaker one ▪ He ordered whiskey with a beer *chaser*. ▪ beer with a whiskey *chaser*

chasm /ˈkæzəm/ *noun, pl* **chasms** [*count*]
1 : a deep hole or opening in the surface of the earth : GORGE
2 : a major division, separation, or difference between two people, groups, etc. ▪ Leaders tried to bridge a *chasm* [=*split*, *divide*] between the two religious groups. ▪ a racial/cultural/economic *chasm*

chas•sis /ˈʧæsi, ˈʃæsi/ *noun, pl* **chas•sis** /ˈʧæsiz, ˈʃæsiz/ [*count*] : a frame upon which the main parts of an automobile are built

chaste /ˈʧeɪst/ *adj* **chast•er**; **-est** [*also more ~; most ~*]
1 *old-fashioned* : not having sex ▪ a *chaste* young woman
2 : morally pure or decent : not sinful ▪ a *chaste* kiss on the cheek
3 : simple or plain ▪ a *chaste* design
– **chaste•ly** *adj* ▪ a *chastely* dressed girl

chas•ten /ˈʧeɪsn̩/ *verb* **-tens**; **-tened**; **-ten•ing** [+ *obj*] : to cause (someone) to feel sad or embarrassed about something that has happened — usually used as *(be) chastened* ▪ He *was chastened* [=*humbled*] by his team's defeat.
– **chastening** *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] ▪ Having her proposal criticized was a *chastening* [=*humbling*] experience.

chas•tise /ʧæˈstaɪz/ *verb* **-tis•es**; **-tised**; **-tis•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to criticize (someone) harshly for doing something wrong ▪ The waiter was *chastised* for forgetting the customer's order. ▪ The coach is always *chastising* the players for minor mistakes.
– **chas•tise•ment** /ʧæˈstaɪzmənt/ *noun* [*noncount*]

chas•ti•ty /ˈʧæstəti/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the state of not having sex with anyone : the quality or state of being chaste ▪ The priest took a ***vow of chastity*** [=made a promise never to have sex]

[1]chat /ˈʧæt/ *verb* **chats**; **chat•ted**; **chat•ting** [*no obj*]
1 : to talk with someone in a casual way ▪ We *chatted* about our plans for the summer. ▪ called him up to *chat*
2 : to talk over the Internet by sending messages back and forth in a chat room ▪ She stayed up all night *chatting* with her friends online.

chat up [*phrasal verb*] ***chat (someone) up*** *or* ***chat up (someone)*** *informal* : to talk informally with (someone, such as someone you are attracted to) ▪ He tried to *chat up* a girl at the dance.

[2]chat *noun, pl* **chats**
1 [*count*] : a light and friendly conversation ▪ We enjoyed a *chat* over coffee.
2 : a talk held over the Internet by people using a chat room [*count*] live *chats* [*noncount*] software used for e-mail and *chat* — often used before another noun ▪ *chat* sessions ▪ *chat* software — see also CHAT ROOM

châ•teau /ʃæˈtoʊ, *Brit* ˈʃætəʊ/ *noun, pl* **châ•teaus** *or* **châ•teaux** /ʃæˈtoʊz, *Brit* ˈʃætəʊz/ [*count*] : a castle or a large house especially in France

chat line *noun, pl* ~ **lines** [*count*] *Brit* : a telephone service that people call in order to speak with other people about a certain topic

chat room *noun, pl* ~ **rooms** [*count*] : a Web site or computer program that allows people to send messages to each other instantly over the Internet

chat show *noun, pl* ~ **shows** [*count*] *Brit* : TALK SHOW

chat•tel /ˈʧætl̩/ *noun, pl* **-tels** *old-fashioned* : something (such as a slave, piece of furniture, tool, etc.) that a person owns other than land or buildings [*count*] personal *chattels* [*noncount*] slaves treated as *chattel*

[1]chat•ter /ˈʧætɚ/ *verb* **-ters**; **-tered**; **-ter•ing** [*no obj*]
1 : to talk in a quick or casual way ▪ Children *chattered* in the middle of the playground. ▪ He was *chattering* [=*jabbering*] away on a cell phone.
2 : to make clicking sounds by knocking together rapidly ▪ My teeth were *chattering* from the cold.
3 : to make fast and usually high-pitched sounds ▪ Birds *chattered* in the trees.

[2]chatter *noun* [*noncount*]
1 : casual talk that is usually not important or interesting ▪ He couldn't stand their endless *chatter* [=*prattle*] about celebrities and movies. ▪ the *chatter* of schoolchildren
2 : a series of fast usually high-pitched sounds ▪ heard the *chatter* of squirrels

chat•ter•box /ˈʧætɚˌbɑːks/ *noun, pl* **-box•es** [*count*] *informal* : a person who talks a lot ▪ That little girl is a *chatterbox*.

chattering classes *noun*
the chattering classes *Brit, disapproving* : educated people who like to talk about politics, culture, society, etc.

chat•ty /ˈʧæti/ *adj* **chat•ti•er**; **-est**
1 : tending to talk a lot : fond of chatting ▪ a *chatty* neighbor ▪ I'm feeling *chatty* today.
2 : having an informal style that is similar to friendly speech ▪ a *chatty* book about his life in politics ▪ She writes with a *chatty* [=*casual*] style.
– **chat•ti•ly** /ˈʧætəli/ *adv* [*more ~; most ~*] ▪ She remarked *chattily* about the weather. – **chat•ti•ness** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ He was known for his *chattiness*.

[1]chauf•feur /ˈʃoʊfɚ, ʃoʊˈfɚ/ *noun, pl* **-feurs** [*count*] : a person whose job is to drive people around in a car
– **chauffeured** *adj* ▪ We rented a *chauffeured* limousine. [=a limousine driven by a chauffeur]

[2]chauffeur *verb* **-feurs**; **-feured**; **-feur•ing**
1 : to drive (someone) around in a car as a job : to work as a chauffeur [*no obj*] He *chauffeurs* for a millionaire. [+ *obj*] He *chauffeurs* a millionaire.
2 [+ *obj*] : to drive (someone) in a car to a certain place ▪ She was *chauffeured* to the airport. ▪ He *chauffeured* his client to the hotel. ▪ They have to *chauffeur* [=*drive*] their children to soccer games every week.

chau•vin•ism /ˈʃoʊvəˌnɪzəm/ *noun* [*noncount*] *disapproving*
1 : an attitude that the members of your own sex are always better than those of the opposite sex ▪ ***male chauvinism*** [=a belief that men are superior to women]
2 : the belief that your country, race, etc., is better than any other ▪ American *chauvinism*

chau•vin•ist /ˈʃoʊvənɪst/ *or* **chau•vin•is•tic** /ˌʃoʊvəˈnɪstɪk/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *disapproving* : believing that your country, sex, etc., is better than any other : showing or filled with chauvinism ▪ She called him a *chauvinist* pig. ▪ *chauvinist* attitudes
– **chauvinist** *noun, pl* **-ists** [*count*] ▪ a male *chauvinist*

chaw /ˈʧɑː/ *noun, pl* **chaws** *US, informal* : a piece or amount of chewing tobacco [*count*] enjoyed a *chaw* of tobacco [*noncount*] a lump of *chaw*

[1]cheap /ˈʧiːp/ *adj* **cheap•er**; **-est**
1 a : not costing a lot of money ▪ I always buy the *cheapest* brand of cereal. ▪ a place where you can get a *cheap* [=*inexpensive*] meal ▪ Rent isn't *cheap* here. ▪ *cheap* imported goods — see also DIRT CHEAP **b** : of low quality : not worth a lot of money ▪ curtains made of *cheap* material ▪ He wears a *cheap* watch that's always breaking. ▪ *cheap* perfume
2 : charging low prices ▪ This gas station is *cheaper* than the one by the highway. ▪ We ate at a *cheap* [=*inexpensive*] restaurant.
3 : not willing to share or spend money ▪ He was too *cheap* [=*stingy*] to pay for the dinner. ▪ Don't be *cheap*—buy good quality tires for your car. — often + *with* ▪ My uncle is *cheap with* his money.

4 : not hard to do or get ▪ It was a *cheap* [=*easy*] victory over a lousy team. ▪ He likes to harass the neighbor's dog as a ***cheap thrill***. [=a minor thing done for entertainment]

5 : having little or no self-respect : ashamed of being used, abused, etc., by other people ▪ He felt *cheap* letting other people treat him like that.

on the cheap *informal* : at the lowest possible cost : in a cheap way ▪ The movie was made *on the cheap*. ▪ They built the house *on the cheap*.

– **cheap•ly** *adv* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ It is not easy to live *cheaply* in this city. ▪ The radio was *cheaply* made and didn't last long. – **cheap•ness** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ The *cheapness* of the stock made it an appealing buy. ▪ My mother-in-law's *cheapness* [=*stinginess*] can be annoying.

²cheap *adv* : at a low cost ▪ They were able to build a house *cheap*. [=*cheaply*] ▪ The film was made *cheap*. : for a low price ▪ The house sold *cheap*.

come cheap : to be available at a low price — usually used in negative statements ▪ His services don't *come cheap*. [=his services are not cheap; his services are expensive] ▪ These materials don't *come cheap*.

cheap•en /'ʧi:pən/ *verb* **-ens**; **-ened**; **-en•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to cause (something) to be of lower quality ▪ Using plastic instead of steel will *cheapen* [=*lower*] the quality of the car. ▪ products *cheapened* by sloppy workmanship

2 : to cause (something) to have or to seem to have less value, meaning, or importance ▪ Using the national flag in advertising only *cheapens* it. ▪ Poor marketing can *cheapen* a brand name. ▪ I thought that the show *cheapened* the lives of the people it portrayed. ▪ The wedding ceremony was *cheapened* by the best man's tasteless jokes.

cheap•ie /'ʧi:pi/ *noun, pl* **-ies** [*count*] *informal* : something that is cheap and usually of low quality ▪ Her first camera was a *cheapie*.

– **cheapie** *adj* ▪ The camera was a *cheapie* model.

cheapo /'ʧi:poʊ/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *informal* : ¹CHEAP ▪ a *cheapo* radio ▪ a *cheapo* horror film

cheap shot *noun, pl* ~ **shots** [*count*] *disapproving*

1 *sports* : an unfair hit made against an opponent ▪ He took a *cheap shot* at the quarterback. ▪ a *cheap shot* to the back of the head

2 : something that one person says about another that is not kind or fair : a critical and unfair comment ▪ The remark about his weight was a *cheap shot*.

cheap•skate /'ʧi:p,skeɪt/ *noun, pl* **-skates** [*count*] *informal* : a person who does not like to spend money ▪ He is a *cheapskate* [=*miser, skinflint*] who almost never gives tips.

¹cheat /'ʧi:t/ *verb* **cheats**; **cheat•ed**; **cheat•ing**

1 [*no obj*] : to break a rule or law usually to gain an advantage at something ▪ The players were accused of *cheating*. ▪ I had to *cheat* in order to solve the puzzle. — often + *on* or *at* ▪ She was caught *cheating on* a test. ▪ They *cheated on* their taxes. ▪ He *cheats at* cards.

2 [+ *obj*] **a** : to take something from (someone) by lying or breaking a rule ▪ The store *cheats* its customers through false advertising. — usually + *out of* ▪ He *cheated* [=*tricked, swindled*] the elderly couple *out of* their property. ▪ I was *cheated out of* 20 dollars. **b** : to prevent (someone) from having something that he or she deserves or was expecting to get ▪ They *cheated* him out of a fair deal. — usually used in the phrase *feel cheated* ▪ Tourists *felt cheated* when they arrived and found out the cathedral was closed.

3 [+ *obj*] : to avoid (something bad, dangerous, etc.) by being clever or lucky ▪ a heroin addict who has *cheated* death many times ▪ They tried to ***cheat fate***. [=they took a risk and hoped be lucky]

cheat on [*phrasal verb*] ***cheat on (someone)*** *informal* : to break a promise made to (someone, such as your wife or husband) by having sex with someone else ▪ He *cheated on* his wife/girlfriend.

– **cheat•er** *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

²cheat *noun, pl* **cheats** [*count*] : a person who cheats ▪ He's a liar and a *cheat*. [=*cheater*] ▪ tax *cheats*

¹check /'ʧɛk/ *verb* **checks**; **checked**; **check•ing**

1 : to look at (something) carefully to find mistakes, problems, etc., or to make sure there is nothing wrong with it [+ *obj*] Make sure to *check* your spelling. ▪ She *checked* her makeup in the mirror. ▪ We should *check* the equipment to make sure that it's working properly. ▪ I *checked* the tires for wear. [=to see if they are worn down/out] ▪ The guards *checked* my passport. [*no obj*] — + *for* ▪ Be careful to *check for* any mistakes. ▪ The border guards *checked* in my luggage *for* contraband. — see also CROSS-CHECK, DOUBLE-CHECK, SPOT-CHECK

2 a : to get information by looking at something, asking about something, etc. [+ *obj*] He *checked* his watch and saw that it was almost noon. ▪ I'll just *check* the map to see where we are. ▪ I'll *check* the newspaper to see when the movie starts. [*no obj*] We were out of milk last time I *checked*. [=*looked*] ▪ "Do you have these shoes in a larger size?" "I don't know. Let me *check*." [=*take a look*] ▪ I think the door is locked, but I'll have to *check* (to be sure). — often followed by *to* + *verb* ▪ Did you *check to see* where the movie was playing? ▪ I *checked to make sure* the door was locked. **b** : to look at or in (a place) in order to find or get something or someone [+ *obj*] If you're looking for a spoon, *check* the top drawer. ▪ I *checked* his office but he wasn't there. [*no obj*] If you're looking for the umbrella, *check* in the closet. **c** [+ *obj*] : to find out if you have any (mail, messages, etc.) ▪ Did you *check* the mail yet today? ▪ She *checked* [=listened to] her phone messages when she got home. ▪ He logged on and *checked* [=*read*] his e-mail.

3 : to talk *with* someone in order to get approval, information, etc., about something [*no obj*] I'll have to *check with* the manager before I can let you in. ▪ *Check with* your doctor to find out which drugs are safe. [+ *obj*] I'm not sure when you should arrive. I'll have to *check* that *with* my wife.

4 [+ *obj*] **a** : to slow or stop (something or someone) from doing something ▪ She started to speak but then *checked* [=*stopped*] herself. ▪ The batter *checked* his swing. [=the batter started to swing and then stopped] **b** *hockey* : to stop or hit (an opponent) in order to steal the ball or puck, defend the goal, etc. ▪ He was *checked* by the defender.

5 [+ *obj*] *US* **a** : to leave (something you own) with a worker at a restaurant, hotel, etc., who keeps it in a special area or room (called a checkroom) while you are there ▪ I *checked* my hat and coat in the restaurant's checkroom. **b** : to give (your bags, suitcases, etc.) to a worker so that they can be loaded onto a plane or train ▪ We *checked* our bags before boarding. **c** : to take (someone's bags, suitcases, etc.) to load them onto a plane or train ▪ The airline *checked* our bags before we boarded. — see also CHECK IN 3 (below)

6 [+ *obj*] *US* : to mark (something) with a check (✓) to show that it has been done, approved, etc. ▪ You should *check* [=(*chiefly Brit*) *tick*] each item on the list after you've completed it. — often + *off* ▪ You should *check off* [=(*chiefly Brit*) *tick off*] each item on the list after you've completed it.

7 [*no obj*] *US, informal* : to be proven to be true, accurate, etc. — usually used in negative statements ▪ Her story didn't *check*. [=the evidence did not support her story] — see also CHECK OUT 2 (below)

check back [*phrasal verb*] *informal* : to return to a place, person, etc., in order to try something again or to get additional information ▪ We are not hiring today, but *check back* next month. ▪ I'll ***check back with you*** [=talk to you again] in about a week.

check in [*phrasal verb*] **1** : to report to someone when you arrive at a place (such as an airport or convention) to let them know you are there ▪ Passengers must *check in* one hour before the flight leaves. ▪ Where do I have to *check in*?; *especially* : to arrive at and be given a room in a hotel, motel, etc. ▪ *check in* [=*register*] at a hotel ▪ Guests cannot *check in* before 4:00 PM. — see also CHECK-IN **2** *US, informal* : to talk with someone in order to report or find out new information ▪ I'm just *checking in* to see how things are going. — usually + *with* ▪ I have to go to a meeting now, but I'll *check in with* you later. **3** ***check (something) in*** *or* ***check in (something)*** : to leave or take bags, suitcases, etc., so that they can be loaded onto a plane or train ▪ We *checked* our bags *in* at the station. ▪ The airline *checked in* our luggage.

check into [*phrasal verb*] ***check into (something)*** **1** : to arrive at and be given a room in (a hotel, motel, etc.) ▪ We *checked into* a hotel. **2** : to look for information about (something) : to find out the truth about (something) by getting information ▪ The police are *checking into* [=*checking on, checking up on*] his activities. [=the police are investigating his activities] ▪ A problem like that should really be *checked into* carefully.

check off on [*phrasal verb*] ***check off on (something)*** *US, informal* : to give official approval for (something) ▪ My boss will have to *check off on* [=*authorize, approve*] my decision.

check on [*phrasal verb*] ***check on (someone or something)*** **1** : to look at or examine (someone or something) to see if there are any problems ▪ The nurse *checked on* the patients

regularly. **2** : to look for information about (someone or something) : to find out the truth about (someone or something) by getting information ▪ The police are *checking on* [=*checking up on*] him. ▪ I asked the waiter to *check on* [=find out what was happening with] my order.

check out [*phrasal verb*] **1 a** : to leave and pay for your room at a hotel, motel, etc. ▪ We *checked out* (of the hotel) early. — see also CHECKOUT **b** *US, informal* : to die ▪ There are still a lot of things I want to accomplish in life before I finally *check out*. **2** *US, informal* **a** : to be proven to be accurate, true, etc. ▪ I didn't believe her at first, but her story *checked out*. ▪ The description *checked out* when we compared it with the photograph. [=we saw that the description was accurate when we compared it with the photograph] **b** ***check out (something) or check (something) out*** : to find out if (something) is true ▪ The police are still trying to *check out* [=*investigate, confirm*] his alibi. **3** ***check out (something or someone) or check (something or someone) out*** **a** : to look at (something or someone) in order to find problems, mistakes, etc. ▪ We carefully *checked out* the car for defects. ▪ He had problems with his computer and asked the technician to *check* it *out*. ▪ He needs to get *checked out* by a doctor. **b** *informal* : to look at (someone or something that is attractive or interesting) ▪ When she walked into the room, all the guys were *checking* her *out*. ▪ Just *check out* his new car! ▪ We're going to the mall to *check out* that new clothing store. — often used in the phrase ***check it out*** to direct someone's attention to something ▪ *Check it out*—they've got that new book in stock. **4** ***check out (something) or check (something) out*** **a** : to borrow (something) from a library ▪ He *checked out* [=*took out, borrowed*] a book on farming. **b** *US* : to add up the cost of the goods that someone buys in a store (such as a supermarket) and accept payment for them ▪ She got a job *checking out* groceries at the supermarket.; *also* : to pay for the goods that you buy in a store ▪ There was a long line of people waiting to *check out* their groceries. ▪ She was able to *check out* quickly using her debit card. — see also CHECKOUT

check over [*phrasal verb*] ***check (something or someone) over or check over (something or someone)*** : to look at (something or someone) in a careful way to find problems, mistakes, etc. ▪ *checking* the new cars *over* ▪ The doctors *checked* him *over* for bruises. ▪ Be sure to *check over* each item on the list for any mistakes. ▪ She *checked* herself *over* [=she looked at herself carefully] in the mirror before going to the party.

check through [*phrasal verb*] ***check through (something)*** : to look at the parts of (a group of things) ▪ I *checked through* all his letters but found nothing useful.

check up on [*phrasal verb*] ***check up on (someone or something)*** : to find or look for information about (someone or something) often in order to find out the truth ▪ My parents are always *checking up on* me. ▪ The police are *checking up on* his alibi.

– **check•able** *adj* ▪ an easily *checkable* fact

²check *noun, pl* **checks**

1 [*count*] : the act or process of looking at or examining something to find out information or see if there is anything wrong with it ▪ Please give the schedule a *check* to see if the times are correct. ▪ I gave the ingredients list a quick *check* to see if the cereal contained any sugar. ▪ She ran/did a quick *check* of the computer to make sure it was working properly. ▪ They did a ***sound check*** [=tested the sound equipment] before the concert. ▪ All government employees are subject to a ***security check***. [=all government employees are investigated to see if they can be trusted] ▪ You should ***keep a close check on*** your blood pressure. [=you should watch your blood pressure closely] ▪ The police ***ran a check on*** the license plate and found out that the car had been stolen.

2 [*count*] **a** : something that stops or limits another thing — usually + *on* ▪ a system that acts/serves as a *check on* the governor's power [=a system that limits the governor's power] ▪ The store hired a guard to ***put a check on*** shoplifting. [=to reduce or stop shoplifting] ▪ The government has lowered interest rates in an attempt to *put a check on* inflation. — see also CHECKS AND BALANCES **b** *hockey* : an act of hitting or stopping a player in order to steal the ball or puck, defend a goal, etc. ▪ He was penalized for an illegal *check*. ▪ a hip *check* [=an act of hitting by bumping with the hips]

3 *US* ***check*** *or Brit* ***cheque*** [*count*] : a piece of paper that is used to make a payment to someone using the money in a bank account ▪ He made out the *check* to me and signed it, and I deposited it in my account. ▪ Do you want to pay in cash, by *check*, or by credit card? ▪ write/cash/draw a *check* — compare MONEY ORDER; see also BLANK CHECK, TRAVELER'S CHECK

4 [*count*] *US* : a bill for the food and drinks that are served in a restaurant ▪ She asked the waiter for the *check*.

5 a [*count*] *US* : a mark ✓ that is used to show that something (such as an item on a list) has been noted, done, etc. — called also (*US*) *check mark*, (*chiefly Brit*) *tick* **b** *informal* — used in speech to say that something has been noted, done, etc. ▪ "So you'll be here at 6 o'clock on the dot." "*Check*." [=yes, I will be here at 6 o'clock] ▪ "Do you have the camera?" "*Check*." "The umbrella?" "*Check*."

6 [*count*] *US* **a** : a room in a restaurant, theater, etc., where you can leave something that you do not want to carry or wear ▪ He left his coat at the ***coat check***. [=*checkroom, coatroom*, (*chiefly Brit*) *cloakroom*] ▪ a ***hat check*** ▪ When she was younger she worked as a ***coat-check/hat-check girl***. [=a woman whose job is to take and return the things that people leave in a checkroom] **b** : a ticket that is given to you when you leave something (such as a hat or a coat) that you will return for later ▪ a baggage *check* — see also RAIN CHECK

7 [*noncount*] : a situation in the game of chess in which a player's king can be captured on the opponent's next turn and must be protected or moved ▪ He moved his bishop and said, "*Check*!" to show that my king was in *check*. — compare CHECKMATE

cut a check see ¹CUT

in check : under control — used with *keep* or *hold* ▪ He's trying to *hold* his emotions *in check*. [=he is trying to control his emotions] ▪ The government has lowered interest rates in an attempt to *keep* inflation *in check*.

– compare ³CHECK

³check *noun, pl* **checks** [*count*] : a pattern of squares in different colors ▪ a fabric with a blue and yellow *check* — often used before another noun ▪ a *check* [=*checked, checkered*] fabric ▪ a tablecloth with a *check* [=*checked, checkered*] pattern — compare ²CHECK

check•book (*US*) *or Brit* **cheque•book** /ˈʧɛkˌbʊk/ *noun, pl* **-books** [*count*] : a book containing checks for use with a checking account

checked *adj* : having a pattern made up of squares of different colors ▪ a *checked* shirt ▪ a *checked* [=*checkered*] pattern/fabric/tablecloth — see color picture on page C12

¹check•er /ˈʧɛkɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

1 *US* : a person in a store whose job is to add up the cost of customers' purchases and take payment for them ▪ a grocery/supermarket *checker*

2 : someone or something that looks at things to find errors or problems ▪ She is a careful *checker* of details. ▪ a ***fact checker*** [=a person whose job is to make sure that the facts in a book, magazine, etc., are correct] ▪ The word processing software includes a ***grammar checker***. [=a feature that finds grammatical errors] — see also SPELL-CHECKER

– compare ²CHECKER

²checker *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *US* : any one of the round pieces that are used in the game of checkers — called also (*Brit*) *draught* — compare ¹CHECKER

check•er•board /ˈʧɛkɚˌboɚd/ *noun, pl* **-boards** [*count*] *US*

1 : a board that is marked with squares of two different colors (such as white and black) and that is used in various games (such as checkers) — called also (*Brit*) *draughtboard*

2 : something that has a pattern or arrangement of squares that looks like a checkerboard ▪ The fields formed a *checkerboard* of light and dark squares. ▪ a *checkerboard* pattern

check•ered (*chiefly US*) *or Brit* **che•quered** /ˈʧɛkɚd/ *adj*

1 : having a pattern made up of squares of different colors ▪ a *checkered* [=*checked*] pattern/fabric/tablecloth

2 a : including good parts and bad parts ▪ He has had a *checkered* career with many ups and downs. **b** [*more* ~; *most* ~] : including many problems or failures ▪ The senator has a ***checkered past***. [=he has done bad things or been in trouble in the past] ▪ When it comes to labor relations, the company has a somewhat ***checkered history***. [=the company has sometimes had problems with labor relations]

check•ers /ˈʧɛkɚz/ *noun* [*noncount*] *US* : a game played on a board (called a checkerboard) by two players who each have 12 round pieces called checkers — called also (*Brit*) *draughts*; see also CHINESE CHECKERS

check–in /ˈʧɛkˌɪn/ *noun, pl* **-ins**

1 [*noncount*] : the act or process of reporting that you have arrived at a hotel, an airport, etc. : the act or process of checking in ▪ *Check-in* was delayed.; *also* : the time when people are allowed to check in ▪ When is *check-in*? = When is *check-in* time?

2 [*count*] : the place where people go when they arrive at a hotel, airport, etc. ▪ When we got to the airport there was a long line at the *check-in*. — often used before another noun ▪ the *check-in* desk/counter — see also *check in* at ¹CHECK

checking account *noun, pl* ~ **-counts** [*count*] *US* : a bank account from which you can take money by writing checks — called also (*Brit*) *current account*

check·list /ˈʧɛkˌlɪst/ *noun, pl* **-lists** [*count*]

1 : a list of things to be checked or done ▪ Before takeoff the pilot went down/through his *checklist* of safety precautions. ▪ I still have one thing left to do on my *checklist*.

2 : a list that includes many or all things of a certain kind ▪ a *checklist* of bird species

check mark *noun, pl* ~ **marks** [*count*] *US* : ²CHECK 5a

check·mate /ˈʧɛkˌmeɪt/ *noun, pl* **-mates** : a situation in chess in which a player loses the game because that player's king is in a position from which it cannot escape [*noncount*] a brilliant move that resulted in *checkmate* [*count*] The challenger can force a *checkmate* with his next move. — compare ²CHECK 7, STALEMATE 2

– **check·mate** *verb* **-mates**; **-mat·ed**; **-mat·ing** [+ *obj*] ▪ The challenger *checkmated* the champion and won the tournament. ▪ His king was *checkmated*.

check·out /ˈʧɛkˌaʊt/ *noun, pl* **-outs**

1 a : the action or an instance of leaving your room in a hotel, motel, etc., after you are finished staying there [*noncount*] She paid for the room at *checkout*. [*count*] an early *checkout* — often used before another noun ▪ the *checkout* desk **b** [*noncount*] : the time by which you must leave your room when you have finished staying in a hotel, motel, etc. ▪ When is *checkout*? = When is *checkout* time? ▪ *Checkout* is at 11:00. — see also *check out* 1a at ¹CHECK

2 [*count*] : the place or area where goods are paid for in a store (such as a supermarket) ▪ There was a long line at the *checkout*. — often used before another noun ▪ the *checkout* counter — see also *check out* 4b at ¹CHECK

check·point /ˈʧɛkˌpɔɪnt/ *noun, pl* **-points** [*count*] : a place where people, cars, etc., are searched by someone (such as a police officer) before being allowed to continue ▪ Our car was stopped at a police *checkpoint* before we were permitted to cross the border. ▪ a military/security *checkpoint*

check·room /ˈʧɛkˌruːm/ *noun, pl* **-rooms** [*count*] *US* : a room in a restaurant, theater, etc., where you can leave something that you do not want to carry or wear while you are there ▪ I got my bag out of the *checkroom* when the performance ended. — called also (*chiefly Brit*) *cloakroom*, (*US*) *coatroom*; compare ²CHECK 6

checks and balances *noun* [*plural*] : a system in which the different parts of an organization (such as a government) have powers that affect and control the other parts so that no part can become too powerful

check·up /ˈʧɛkˌʌp/ *noun, pl* **-ups** [*count*] : an examination of a person made by a doctor to make sure the person is healthy ▪ She goes for a *checkup* every year. ▪ The doctor/dentist gave me a *checkup*.; *also* : an instance of looking at the parts of a machine to make sure it is working properly ▪ She brought in her car for a 30,000-mile *checkup*.

ched·dar /ˈʧɛdɚ/ *noun, often* **Cheddar** [*noncount*] : a type of hard yellow, white, or orange cheese that is smooth

cheek /ˈʧiːk/ *noun, pl* **cheeks**

1 [*count*] : the part of the face that is below the eye and to the side of the nose and mouth ▪ rosy/chubby *cheeks* ▪ He kissed her on the *cheek*. ▪ They were sitting/dancing/posing ***cheek to cheek***. [=with their cheeks touching] — see picture at FACE; see also TONGUE IN CHEEK

2 *Brit* : an attitude or way of behaving that is rude and does not show proper respect [*noncount*] He had the *cheek* [=*nerve*] to complain that our gift was cheap. [*singular*] He's got a *cheek* ignoring us like that.

3 [*count*] *informal* : one of the two parts of the body that a person sits on : BUTTOCKS

cheek by jowl : very close together ▪ We sat *cheek by jowl* [=*side by side*] with the city's elite. ▪ cheap knickknacks displayed *cheek by jowl* with fine antiques

turn the other cheek : to choose not to try to hurt or insult someone who has hurt or insulted you

cheek·bone /ˈʧiːkˌboʊn/ *noun, pl* **-bones** [*count*] : a bone of the face that is located below the eye ▪ He suffered a broken *cheekbone*. ▪ She has high *cheekbones*, like her father.

cheeky /ˈʧiːki/ *adj* **cheek·i·er**; **-est** *chiefly Brit, informal* : rude and showing a lack of respect often in a way that seems playful or amusing ▪ *cheeky* humor ▪ a *cheeky* grin

– **cheek·i·ly** /ˈʧiːkəli/ *adv* – **cheek·i·ness** /ˈʧiːkinəs/ *noun* [*noncount*]

cheep /ˈʧiːp/ *verb* **cheeps**; **cheeped**; **cheep·ing** [*no obj*] *of a bird* : to make a quick high sound ▪ chicks *cheeping* for food

– **cheep** *noun, pl* **cheeps** [*count*] ▪ the *cheeps* of newly hatched chicks

¹cheer /ˈʧɪɚ/ *noun, pl* **cheers**

1 [*count*] : a shout of praise or encouragement ▪ The audience let out a *cheer*. ▪ Loud *cheers* were coming from the bleachers. ▪ The star was greeted with *cheers*. ▪ ***Three cheers for*** our team! [=hooray for our team]

2 [*noncount*] *somewhat formal* : a happy feeling or attitude ▪ faces full of *cheer* ▪ Let's spread a little holiday *cheer*. ▪ ***Be of good cheer***. [=be happy]

3 [*count*] : a special song or chant that is performed to encourage a team during a game in sports like American football and basketball ▪ The cheerleaders did/led a *cheer* for the home team. — see also BRONX CHEER

²cheer *verb* **cheers**; **cheered**; **cheer·ing**

1 a : to shout with joy, approval, or enthusiasm [*no obj*] The crowd *cheered* as he crossed the finish line. ▪ We were *cheering* for you all the way! [+ *obj*] The crowd *cheered* him as he crossed the finish line. ▪ Their fans *cheered* them to victory. **b** [+ *obj*] : to express enthusiastic approval of or support for (something) ▪ Supporters *cheered* the court's decision.

2 [+ *obj*] : to cause (someone) to feel happier or more hopeful ▪ Investors were *cheered* by good economic news.

cheer on [*phrasal verb*] ***cheer (someone) on*** *or* ***cheer on (someone)*** : to encourage (someone) with shouts or cheers ▪ Their fans *cheered* them *on* from the sidelines.

cheer up [*phrasal verb*] **1** ***cheer up*** *or* ***cheer (someone) up*** *or* ***cheer up (someone)*** : to become happier or to make (someone) happier ▪ They *cheered up* at the mention of her name. ▪ *Cheer up*—things will get better! ▪ We tried our best to *cheer* her *up*. **2** ***cheer (something) up*** *or* ***cheer up (something)*** : to make (something) more cheerful or pleasant ▪ Bright colors really *cheer up* a room.

cheer·ful /ˈʧɪɚfəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 a : feeling or showing happiness ▪ a *cheerful* face/person ▪ She has a *cheerful* outlook on life. ▪ He seems a little more *cheerful* today. **b** : feeling or showing that you are willing to do something without complaining ▪ *cheerful* obedience

2 a : causing good feelings or happiness ▪ *cheerful* words/news **b** : bright and pleasant to look at ▪ *cheerful* colors ▪ a sunny *cheerful* room

– **cheer·ful·ly** *adv* ▪ He *cheerfully* admitted that he was wrong. ▪ She greeted us *cheerfully*. – **cheer·ful·ness** *noun* [*nouncount*]

cheer·io /ˌʧɪriˈoʊ/ *interj, Brit, informal* + *somewhat old-fashioned* : ¹GOODBYE

cheer·lead·er /ˈʧɪɚˌliːdɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

1 : a person who is a member of a group (typically a group of young women) who shout out special songs or chants to encourage the team and entertain the crowd during a game in sports like American football and basketball

2 : a person who encourages other people to do or support something ▪ a politician who is a *cheerleader* for the government's new economic plan

– **cheer·lead·ing** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ She participates in both soccer and *cheerleading* at school. — often used before another noun ▪ *cheerleading* tryouts/practice ▪ a *cheerleading* team/squad

cheer·less /ˈʧɪɚləs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not causing happiness or warm feelings : bleak or gloomy ▪ a *cheerless* day/place ▪ The room was surprisingly bare and *cheerless*.

cheers /ˈʧɪɚz/ *interj*

1 — used as a toast to wish everyone happiness ▪ Drink up, everybody. *Cheers*!

2 *Brit* **a** — used as an informal way to say "thank you" **b** — used as an informal way to say "goodbye"

cheery /ˈʧɪri/ *adj* **cheer·i·er**; **-est** : having or causing happy feelings : CHEERFUL ▪ *cheery* words/colors

– **cheer·i·ly** /ˈʧɪrəli/ *adv* – **cheer·i·ness** /ˈʧɪrinəs/ *noun* [*noncount*]

cheese /ˈʧiːz/ *noun, pl* **chees·es** : a yellow or white solid

food that is made from milk [*noncount*] a piece of *cheese* ▪ Sprinkle the casserole with *cheese*. ▪ grated/melted *cheese* [*count*] imported *cheeses* ▪ a mild *cheese* — often used before another noun ▪ *cheese* sandwiches/omelets ▪ a *cheese* [=*cheesy*] sauce/spread

say cheese ✧ If you say the word "cheese" in an exaggerated way, you look like you are smiling, so someone who is taking your photograph and wants you to smile will tell you to *say cheese*.

– see also BIG CHEESE

cheese•burg•er /ˈʧiːzˌbəgə/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a hamburger with a piece of cheese on top of the meat

cheese•cake /ˈʧiːzˌkeɪk/ *noun, pl* **-cakes**

1 [*count, noncount*] : a cake with a sweet filling usually made of cheese, eggs, and sugar

2 [*noncount*] *informal* : pictures of attractive young women who are wearing little clothing ▪ advertisers who rely on *cheesecake* to sell products — often used before another noun ▪ *cheesecake* photos/posters/calendars — compare BEEFCAKE

cheese•cloth /ˈʧiːzˌklɑːθ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a very thin cotton cloth that is used especially in preparing food

cheesed off /ˌʧiːzdˈɑːf/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *Brit, informal* : angry or annoyed ▪ feeling a bit *cheesed off*

cheese•steak /ˈʧiːzˌsteɪk/ *noun, pl* **-steaks** [*count*] *US* : a sandwich made with thin slices of beef and melted cheese

cheesy /ˈʧiːzi/ *adj* **chees•i•er; -est**

1 a : resembling cheese; *especially* : looking or smelling like cheese ▪ a *cheesy* texture/odor **b** : containing cheese ▪ a *cheesy* sauce

2 *informal* : of poor quality : lacking style or good taste ▪ a *cheesy* [=*cheap, shabby*] motel ▪ a *cheesy* movie ▪ *cheesy* [=*corny*] pop songs

chee•tah /ˈʧiːtə/ *noun, pl* **-tahs** [*count*] : a large wild cat that lives in Asia and Africa and that can run very fast — see picture at CAT

chef /ˈʃɛf/ *noun, pl* **chefs** [*count*]

1 : a professional cook who usually is in charge of a kitchen in a restaurant ▪ The hotel's *chef* trained at the finest culinary institutes in Europe. ▪ He's the ***head chef*** at a five-star restaurant. ▪ a ***celebrity chef*** with her own TV show

2 : a person who prepares food for people to eat : COOK ▪ My friend is an excellent *chef*.

[1]chem•i•cal /ˈkɛmɪkəl/ *adj*

1 : of or relating to chemistry ▪ a *chemical* analysis ▪ *chemical* elements/bonds ▪ They studied the compound's *chemical* structure/composition/properties. ▪ a *chemical* laboratory

2 : working by means of chemicals ▪ *chemical* pesticides/weapons/agents — see also CHEMICAL WARFARE

– **chem•i•cal•ly** /ˈkɛmɪkli/ *adv* ▪ The wood is *chemically* treated. ▪ drugs that are *chemically* related

[2]chemical *noun, pl* **-cals** [*count*] : a substance (such as an element or compound) that is made by a chemical process ▪ toxic/hazardous/industrial *chemicals*

chemical engineering *noun* [*noncount*] : a type of engineering that deals with the use of chemistry in industry

– **chemical engineer** *noun, pl ~* **-neers** [*count*]

chemical reaction *noun, pl ~* **-tions** [*count*] : REACTION 5a

chemical warfare *noun* [*noncount*] : the use of chemical substances (such as poisonous gases) as weapons in a war

che•mise /ʃəˈmiːz/ *noun, pl* **-mis•es** [*count*]

1 : a piece of clothing that looks like a light, loose dress and that is worn by women as underwear or in bed

2 : a loose dress that hangs straight

chem•ist /ˈkɛmɪst/ *noun, pl* **-ists** [*count*]

1 : a person who studies or does research in the science of chemistry

2 *Brit* : PHARMACIST

chem•is•try /ˈkɛməstri/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 : a science that deals with the structure and properties of substances and with the changes that they go through ▪ a professor of *chemistry* — see also INORGANIC CHEMISTRY, ORGANIC CHEMISTRY

2 : the structure and properties of a substance : the way a substance changes and reacts with other substances ▪ studying the *chemistry* of gasoline/iron ▪ blood/body *chemistry*

3 a : a strong attraction between people ▪ They tried dating, but there was no *chemistry* between them. **b** : the way the people in a group work together and feel about each other ▪ the *chemistry* of the office ▪ The team lacks *chemistry*.

chemistry set *noun, pl ~* **sets** [*count*] : a set of equipment that a child can use to learn about chemistry by doing simple experiments

che•mo•ther•a•py /ˌkiːmoʊˈθerəpi/ *noun* [*noncount*] *medical* : the use of chemicals to treat or control a disease (such as cancer) ▪ She underwent (a course of) *chemotherapy*.

che•nille /ʃəˈniːl/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a thick, soft cloth ▪ a *chenille* bedspread

cheque *Brit spelling of* [2]CHECK 3

cheque•book *Brit spelling of* CHECKBOOK

cheque card *noun, pl ~* **cards** [*count*] *Brit* : a card that you show when you pay for something with a cheque to prove that the bank will pay the amount of the cheque

che•quered *Brit spelling of* CHECKERED

cher•ish /ˈʧerɪʃ/ *verb* **-ish•es; -ished; -ish•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to feel or show great love for (someone or something) ▪ She *cherishes* her friends/family. ▪ a book *cherished* by many

synonyms see APPRECIATE

2 : to remember or hold (an idea, belief, etc.) in a deeply felt way ▪ I will always *cherish* that memory.

– **cherished** *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] ▪ a *cherished* friend ▪ my most *cherished* and deeply held beliefs

Cher•o•kee /ˈʧerəki/ *noun, pl* **-kee** *or* **-kees** [*count*] : a member of a Native American people originally from Tennessee and North Carolina

cher•ry /ˈʧeri/ *noun, pl* **-ries**

1 a [*count*] : a small round fruit that is usually red or black — see color picture on page C5 **b** [*count*] : a tree on which this fruit grows — called also *cherry tree* **c** [*noncount*] : the wood of a cherry tree ▪ The kitchen cabinets are made of *cherry*. — called also *cherry wood*

2 [*noncount*] : a bright red color — called also *cherry red*; see color picture on page C3

– **cherry** *adj* ▪ *cherry* juice/pie ▪ a *cherry* table [=a table made of cherry wood] ▪ *cherry* [=*red*] lips

cherry bomb *noun, pl ~* **bombs** [*count*] *US* : a round firecracker that makes a loud noise when it explodes

cher•ry–pick /ˈʧeriˌpɪk/ *verb* **-picks; -picked; -pick•ing** : to pick or accept the best people or things in a group [+ *obj*] Hollywood's biggest stars can *cherry-pick* the best projects and directors. [*no obj*] elite colleges that can *cherry-pick* from the best students available

cherry tomato *noun, pl ~* **-toes** [*count*] : a very small red or orange tomato or a plant that produces such tomatoes

cher•ub /ˈʧerəb/ *noun* [*count*]

1 *pl* ***cherubs*** *or* ***cherubim*** : a type of angel that is usually shown in art as a beautiful young child with small wings and a round face and body

2 *pl* ***cherubs*** : someone (such as a child) who is thought of as being like a small angel ▪ My little *cherub*! — sometimes used in combination ▪ a *cherub*-faced toddler

– **che•ru•bic** /ʧəˈruːbɪk/ *adj* ▪ a child with a *cherubic* face

cher•vil /ˈʧɚvəl/ *noun* [*noncount*] : an herb that is often used in cooking and salads

chess /ˈʧɛs/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a game for two players in which each player moves 16 pieces across a board and tries to place the opponent's king in a position from which it cannot escape ▪ We played (a game of) *chess*. — often used before another noun ▪ a *chess* player/champion ▪ a *chess* match/tournament

chess•board /ˈʧɛsˌboɚd/ *noun, pl* **-boards** [*count*] : a board used in chess that has 64 squares in two colors

chess•man /ˈʧɛsˌmæn/ *noun, pl* **-men** /-mən/ [*count*] : any of the playing pieces used in chess : a chess piece

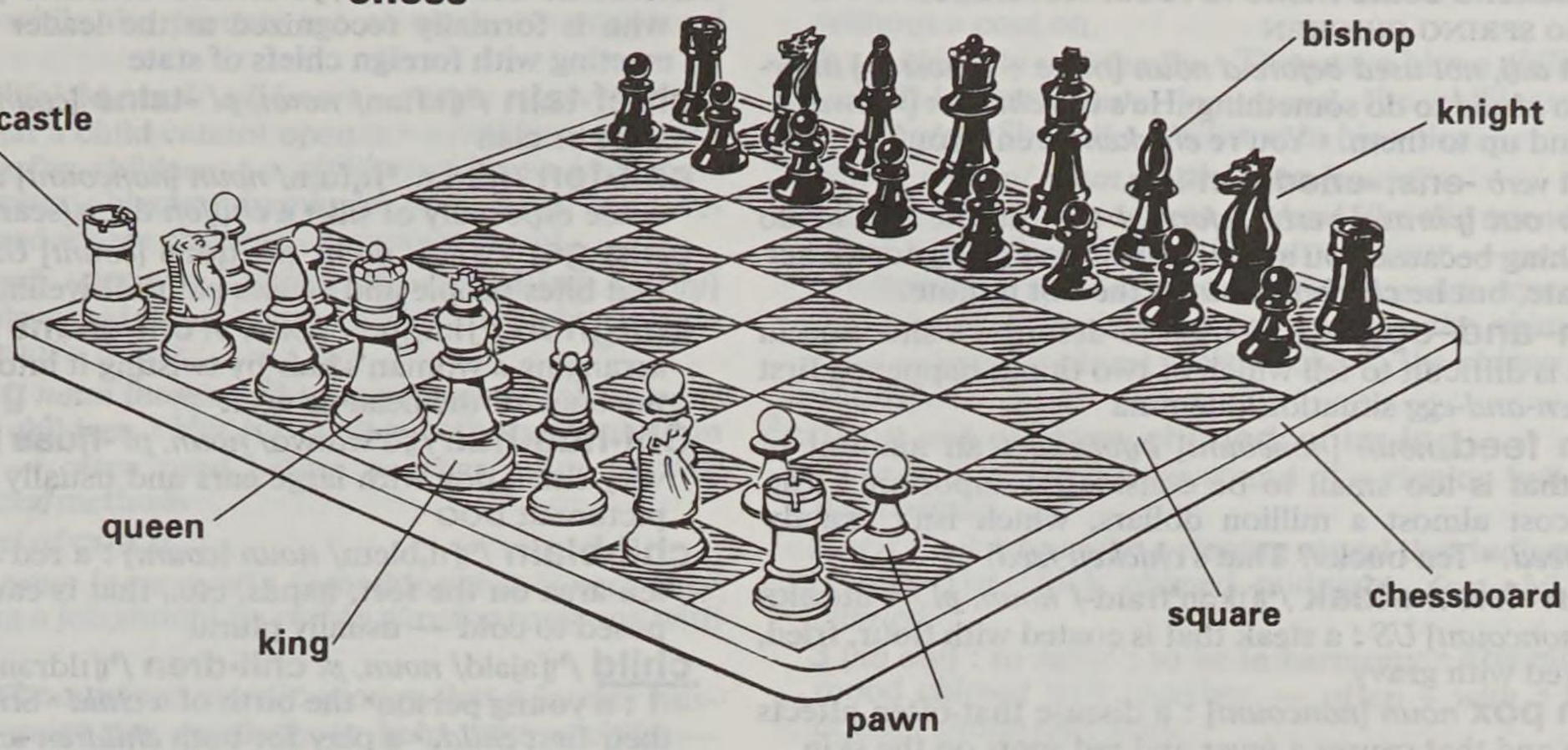
chest /ˈʧɛst/ *noun, pl* **chests** [*count*]

1 : a container (such as a box or case) for holding things or moving them from place to place ▪ a linen *chest* ▪ a tool *chest* ▪ a treasure *chest* ▪ a ***medicine chest*** [=a cabinet on a bathroom wall that is used for storing medicine and small items] — see also CHEST OF DRAWERS, HOPE CHEST, WAR CHEST

2 : the front part of the body between the neck and the stomach ▪ He has a broad *chest*. ▪ The pain is in my upper *chest*. — often used before another noun ▪ the *chest* cavity ▪ a *chest* X-ray ▪ She's been complaining of *chest* pains. — see picture at HUMAN

close to your chest see [2]CLOSE

get (something) off your chest : to tell someone about something that has been making you upset or unhappy ▪ You've been a little cold to me lately. Is there something you'd like to *get off your chest*?



– chest•ed /ˈʧɛstəd/ *adj* — used in combination • *flat-chested* • bare-*chested*

[1]chest•nut /ˈʧɛsˌnʌt/ *noun, pl* **-nuts**
1 a [*count*] : a type of tree that produces large, sweet nuts that can be eaten — called also *chestnut tree* **b** [*count*] : the nut of a chestnut tree • roasted *chestnuts* — see picture at NUT **c** [*noncount*] : the wood of a chestnut tree — see also HORSE CHESTNUT, WATER CHESTNUT
2 [*count*] : a brown or reddish-brown horse

[2]chestnut *adj* : of a reddish-brown color • *chestnut* hair • a *chestnut* stallion

chest of drawers *noun, pl* **chests of drawers** [*count*] : a piece of furniture that contains drawers for storing clothes — called also (*US*) *bureau*

chev•ron /ˈʃɛvrən/ *noun, pl* **-rons** [*count*]
1 : a shape, pattern, or object in the form of a V or an upside-down V
2 : a piece of cloth that is shaped like a V and that is worn on the sleeve of a military or police uniform to show a person's rank

[1]chew /ˈʧu:/ *verb* **chews; chewed; chew•ing**
1 a : to use your teeth to cut food into small pieces before you swallow it [+ *obj*] We were taught to *chew* our food thoroughly before swallowing. [*no obj*] He *chews* with his mouth open. **b** : to bite on (something) repeatedly with the teeth [+ *obj*] You're not allowed to *chew* gum in class. • *chew* tobacco • Stop *chewing* [=*biting*] your nails. [*no obj*] A mouse *chewed* through the cord. — often + *on* • The dog was *chewing on* a bone.
2 [+ *obj*] : to make (something, such as a hole) by chewing • The dog *chewed* a hole in the rug.
bite off more than you can chew see [1]BITE
chew off [*phrasal verb*] ***chew off (something)*** *or* ***chew (something) off*** : to remove (something) by chewing • The dog *chewed* the doll's eyes *off*.
chew on [*phrasal verb*] ***chew on (something)*** *informal* : to think about (something) • *Chew on* it for a while before you decide. • That should give you *something to chew on*. — see also [1]CHEW 1b (above)
chew out [*phrasal verb*] ***chew (someone) out*** *or* ***chew out (someone)*** *US, informal* : to speak in an angry and critical way to (someone) • I got *chewed out* [=*reprimanded*] for leaving early. • The coach *chewed* him *out*.
chew over [*phrasal verb*] ***chew (something) over*** *or* ***chew over (something)*** *informal* : to think about (something) • He *chewed* the problem *over* in his mind. • *Chew it over* for a while before you decide.
chew the fat *also* ***chew the rag*** *informal* : to talk together in a friendly and casual way • They would sit for hours and *chew the fat*. [=*chat, shoot the breeze*]
chew up [*phrasal verb*] ***chew (something) up*** *or* ***chew up (something)*** **1** : to destroy (something) by chewing it • My new puppy *chewed up* my shoes. **2** *informal* : to destroy or defeat (someone or something) • The truck *chewed up* the grass. • The gears got all *chewed up*. • They *chewed up* the competition. • Don't mess with her—she'll ***chew you up and spit you out***.
– chew•able /ˈʧu:wəbəl/ *adj* • *chewable* vitamins **– chew•er** *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] • gum *chewers*

[2]chew *noun, pl* **chews** [*count*]
1 : the act of chewing something • a quick *chew*
2 : something that a person or animal chews • a *chew* of tobacco • a rawhide *chew*

chewing gum *noun* [*noncount*] : a type of soft candy that you chew on but do not swallow • a piece/stick of *chewing gum*

chewing tobacco *noun* [*noncount*] : a type of tobacco that is chewed rather than smoked

chew toy *noun, pl* **~ toys** [*count*] *US* : a toy that is designed to be chewed by a dog

chewy /ˈʧu:wi/ *adj* **chew•i•er; -est** [*also more ~; most ~*] : requiring a lot of chewing • *chewy* meat • a *chewy* candy/cookie

Chey•enne /ʃaɪˈæn/ *noun, pl* **-ennes** [*count*] : a member of a Native American people of the western U.S.

Chi•an•ti /kiˈɑ:nti, *Brit* kiˈænti/ *noun, pl* **-tis** [*count, noncount*] : a dry red wine from Italy

[1]chic /ˈʃi:k/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : following the current fashion or style : fashionable and appealing • *chic* clothes • The café has a *chic* new look. • She looked very *chic*.

[2]chic *noun* [*noncount*] : fashionable style • French *chic* • It's the height of *chic* this year.

chi•ca•nery /ʃɪˈkeɪnəri/ *noun* [*noncount*] *formal* : actions or statements that trick people into believing something that is not true : deception or trickery • He wasn't above using *chicanery* to win votes.

Chi•ca•na /ʧɪˈkɑ:nə/ *noun, pl* **-nas** [*count*] : an American woman or girl whose parents or grandparents came from Mexico
– Chicana *adj* • a *Chicana* writer

Chi•ca•no /ʧɪˈkɑ:noʊ/ *noun, pl* **-nos** [*count*] : an American (especially a man or boy) whose parents or grandparents came from Mexico
– Chicano *adj* • *Chicano* artists • the *Chicano* community

chi•chi /ˈʃi:ˌʃi:/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *usually disapproving* : fashionable or showy especially in a way that is meant to impress people or to attract attention • a *chichi* restaurant/nightclub

chick /ˈʧɪk/ *noun, pl* **chicks** [*count*]
1 : a baby bird • eagle *chicks*; *especially* : a baby chicken • a mother hen and her *chicks*
2 *informal* : a woman or girl • a cute *chick* ✧ This sense of *chick* is somewhat old-fashioned and is now sometimes considered offensive.

chick•a•dee /ˈʧɪkəˌdi:/ *noun, pl* **-dees** [*count*] : a common, small American bird — see color picture on page C9

[1]chick•en /ˈʧɪkn̩/ *noun, pl* **-ens**
1 a [*count*] : a bird that is raised by people for its eggs and meat **b** [*noncount*] : the meat of the chicken used as food • We had *chicken* for dinner. • fried/roasted/grilled *chicken* — often used before another noun • *chicken* soup/broth • *chicken* salad
2 [*count*] *informal* : a person who is afraid : COWARD • It's just a spider, you *chicken*! • Don't be such a big *chicken*.
count your chickens ✧ If you ***count your chickens*** or (*US*) ***count your chickens before they hatch*** or (*Brit*) ***before they're hatched***, you believe that something you want to happen will definitely happen before you know for certain that it really will. • Don't *count your chickens before they hatch*—we don't know yet if she will accept our offer.

your chickens come home to roost see ²ROOST
– see also SPRING CHICKEN

²chicken *adj, not used before a noun* [*more ~; most ~*] *informal* : too afraid to do something▪ He's too *chicken* [=*cowardly*] to stand up to them. ▪ You're *chicken*, aren't you?

³chicken *verb* **-ens**; **-ened**; **-en•ing**
chicken out [*phrasal verb*] *informal* : to decide not to do something because you are afraid▪ He was going to ask her on a date, but he *chickened out* at the last minute.

chicken–and–egg *adj* — used to describe a situation in which it is difficult to tell which of two things happened first ▪ a *chicken-and-egg* situation/dilemma

chicken feed *noun* [*noncount*] *informal* : an amount of money that is too small to be considered important ▪ The project cost almost a million dollars, which isn't exactly *chicken feed*. ▪ Ten bucks? That's *chicken feed*!

chick•en–fried steak /ˈʧɪkənˈfraɪd-/ *noun, pl* **~ steaks** [*count, noncount*] *US* : a steak that is coated with flour, fried, and served with gravy

chicken pox *noun* [*noncount*] : a disease that often affects children and that causes a fever and red spots on the skin

chick•en•shit /ˈʧɪkn̩ˌʃɪt/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *US slang, offensive* : weak and cowardly▪ That guy likes to make threats but he's too *chickenshit* to act on them.
– **chickenshit** *noun, pl* **-shits** *US slang, offensive* [*count*] a bunch of *chickenshits*. [=*cowards*] [*noncount*] a load of *chickenshit* [=*nonsense, bullshit*]

chicken wire *noun* [*noncount*] : a type of strong wire that is used especially to make fences

chick flick *noun, pl* **~ flicks** [*count*] *informal* : a movie that is intended to appeal to women

chick•pea /ˈʧɪkˌpi:/ *noun, pl* **-peas** [*count*] : a pale round seed that is cooked and eaten as a vegetable — called also (*US*) *garbanzo*, (*US*) *garbanzo bean*

chic•o•ry /ˈʧɪkəri/ *noun, pl* **-ries** [*count, noncount*] : a European plant that has bitter-tasting leaves that are often used in salads ✧ The dried, ground root of the chicory plant is sometimes used as a flavoring in or substitute for coffee. — compare BELGIAN ENDIVE

chide /ˈʧaɪd/ *verb* **chides**; **chid•ed** /ˈʧaɪdəd/; **chid•ing** /ˈʧaɪdɪŋ/ [+ *obj*] : to express mild disapproval of (someone) : to scold (someone) gently▪ She *chided* us for arriving late. ▪ "You really should have been here on time," she *chided*.

¹chief /ˈʧi:f/ *noun, pl* **chiefs** [*count*] : the person who is the leader of a group of people, of an organization, etc. ▪ She's the *chief* of surgery [=the doctor who is in charge of the surgical department] at the hospital. ▪ the police *chief* = the *chief of police* ▪ the fire *chief* [=the head of a department of firefighters] ▪ an Indian *chief* [=the leader of a tribe of Native Americans]

²chief *adj, always used before a noun*
1 : highest in rank or authority ▪ the *chief* engineer on the project ▪ the company's *chief* executive — see also COMMANDER IN CHIEF, EDITOR IN CHIEF
2 : most important : MAIN ▪ Her job is their *chief* source of income. ▪ their *chief* accomplishment ▪ our *chief* competitor ▪ He has many concerns, *chief* among them his health.

chief constable *noun, pl* **~ -stables** [*count*] *Brit* : a police officer who is in charge of a police force

chief executive *noun, pl* **~ -tives** [*count*]
1 : CEO
2 a : the president of a country ▪ The President is the *chief executive* of the U.S. **b** : the governor of a U.S. state

chief executive officer *noun, pl* **~ -cers** [*count*] : CEO

chief justice *or* **Chief Justice** *noun, pl* **~ -tices** [*count*] : the most important and powerful judge of a court of law and especially of the U.S. Supreme Court

chief•ly /ˈʧi:fli/ *adv* : mainly or mostly — used to identify the most important part of something, reason for something, etc. ▪ We're *chiefly* concerned with protecting the environment. ▪ His greatest works—*chiefly* those written between 1640 and 1685—are still read today. ▪ an animal that hunts *chiefly* by smell ▪ The disease occurs *chiefly* in children. ▪ The rock is composed *chiefly* of quartz.

chief of staff *noun, pl* **chiefs of staff** [*count*]
1 : a person of high rank in the U.S. Army, Navy, Air Force, or Marines who advises the person in charge of military operations — see also JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
2 : a person of high rank who advises a leader (such as the U.S. President) on important matters ▪ the White House *Chief of Staff*

chief of state *noun, pl* **chiefs of state** [*count*] : a person who is formally recognized as the leader of a country ▪ a meeting with foreign chiefs of state

chief•tain /ˈʧi:ftən/ *noun, pl* **-tains** [*count*] : a leader of a tribe or clan

chif•fon /ʃɪˈfɑ:n, ˈʃɪˌfɑ:n/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a very thin cloth made especially of silk▪ a *chiffon* dress/scarf

chig•ger /ˈʧɪgɚ/ *noun, pl* **-gers** [*count*] *US* : a small insect that bites people and causes painful swelling on the skin

chi•gnon /ˈʃi:nˌjɑ:n/ *noun, pl* **chi•gnons** [*count*] : a way of arranging a woman's hair by twisting it into a round shape at the back of the head or neck

Chi•hua•hua /ʧəˈwɑ:wɑ/ *noun, pl* **-huas** [*count*] : a type of very small dog with large ears and usually short hair — see picture at DOG

chil•blain /ˈʧɪlˌbleɪn/ *noun* [*count*] : a red and painful swollen area on the feet, hands, etc., that is caused by being exposed to cold — usually plural

child /ˈʧajəld/ *noun, pl* **chil•dren** /ˈʧɪldrən/ [*count*]
1 : a young person▪ the birth of a *child* ▪ She's pregnant with their first *child*. ▪ a play for both *children* and adults ▪ I went there once ***as a child*** [=when I was a child] — often used before another noun.▪ a *child* prodigy ▪ a *child* actor ▪ *child* development ▪ *child* psychologists
2 : a son or daughter▪ All of their *children* are grown now. ▪ an elderly couple and their adult *children*
3 : an adult who acts like a child : a childlike or childish person▪ I'm a *child* when it comes to doing taxes. [=I need to be told or shown what to do] ▪ Men are such *children* sometimes.
4 : a person who has been strongly influenced by a certain place or time or by the events happening during that time▪ She's a *child* of her time. ▪ a *child* of the Depression
children should be seen and not heard — used to say that children should be quiet and well-behaved
with child *old-fashioned* : PREGNANT ▪ She found herself *with child*. [=she discovered that she was pregnant]
– see also BRAINCHILD

child•bear•ing /ˈʧajəldˌberɪŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the process of giving birth to children▪ women who delay *childbearing*
– **childbearing** *adj* ▪ women of *childbearing* age [=women who are old enough to give birth to children]

child benefit *noun, pl* **~ -fits** [*count*] *Brit* : money that the government pays to families with children

child•birth /ˈʧajəldˌbɚθ/ *noun, pl* **-births** : the act or process of giving birth to children [*count*] the total number of *childbirths* [=(more commonly) *births*] [*noncount*] advocates of natural *childbirth*

child•care /ˈʧajəldˌkeɚ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the things that are done to take care of children especially when their parents are away or at work ▪ The cost of *childcare* can be expensive. ▪ *Childcare* is available for children under five. — often used before another noun▪ *childcare* centers/workers

child•hood /ˈʧajəldˌhʊd/ *noun, pl* **-hoods** : the period of time when a person is a child [*noncount*] I remember this place from (my) *childhood*. ▪ diseases that can occur in *childhood* [*count*] Both men had unhappy *childhoods*. — often used before another noun▪ *childhood* heroes/friends/memories ▪ my *childhood* home — see also SECOND CHILDHOOD

child•ish /ˈʧaɪldɪʃ/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : of a child or typical of a child ▪ She has a *childish* face. ▪ a letter written in *childish* scrawl ▪ He opened the gifts with *childish* delight. ; *especially, disapproving* : having or showing the unpleasant qualities (such as silliness or lack of maturity) that children often have ▪ a *childish* prank ▪ We're tired of their *childish* games. ▪ I find his humor very *childish*. — compare CHILDLIKE
– **child•ish•ly** *adv* ▪ a *childishly* simple idea – **child•ishness** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ She was annoyed by the *childishness* of his behavior.

child•less /ˈʧajəldləs/ *adj* : having no children ▪ *childless* couples
– **child•less•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

child•like /ˈʧajəldˌlaɪk/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : resembling or suggesting a child : like that of a child ▪ a *childlike* drawing/voice ▪ a grown woman with a *childlike* face ; *especially* : having or showing the pleasing qualities (such as innocence) that children often have▪ *childlike* faith/enthusiasm ▪ We gazed at it in *childlike* wonder. ▪ She took a *childlike* glee in describing every detail. — compare CHILDISH

child•mind•er /ˈʧajəldˌmaɪndɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *Brit*

: a person who is paid to take care of children usually in his or her home while the parents are at work ▪ a registered *childminder*

[1]child•proof /ˈʧajəldˌpru:f/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*]
1 : made so that a child cannot open it ▪ a *childproof* bottle
2 : made safe for children ▪ a *childproof* home [=a home where dangerous objects, chemicals, etc., have been removed or placed where children cannot get them]

[2]childproof *verb* **-proofs; -proofed; -proof•ing** [+ *obj*] : to make (a place) safe for children ▪ The article has tips on how to *childproof* a home.

child–rearing *noun* [*noncount*] : the process of taking care of and raising children ▪ Her husband is actively involved in *child-rearing*. — often used before another noun ▪ *child-rearing* practices/methods

children *plural of* CHILD

child's play *noun* [*noncount*] : something that is very easy to do ▪ Landing a job should be *child's play* for someone with his skills.

child support *noun* [*noncount*] : money that a former husband or wife must pay regularly to help raise a child — called also (*Brit*) *maintenance*

chili (*US*) *or Brit* **chil•li** *also US* **chile** /ˈʧɪli/ *noun, pl* **chilies** *also* **chil•es** *or Brit* **chil•lies**
1 [*count, noncount*] : a small pepper with a very hot flavor — called also *chili pepper*
2 [*noncount*] : a spicy dish made of ground beef, hot peppers or chili powder, and usually beans ▪ a bowl of *chili* — called also *chili con car•ne* /-ˌka:nˈkaəni/

chili dog *noun, pl* **~ dogs** [*count*] *US* : a hot dog with chili on top of it

chili powder (*US*) *or Brit* **chilli powder** *noun* [*noncount*] : a dry powder that is made of chilies and other spices and that is used to give food a hot flavor

chili sauce *noun* [*noncount*] *US* : a spicy sauce that is made with tomatoes and hot red and green peppers

[1]chill /ˈʧɪl/ *noun, pl* **chills**
1 [*singular*] : a cold feeling : a degree of cold that can be felt and that is usually unpleasant ▪ There was a *chill* in the autumn air. ▪ He closed the windows to keep out the *chill*. ▪ I'll turn on the heat for a bit, just to ***take the chill off***. [=raise the temperature slightly to a comfortable level] — see also WINDCHILL
2 [*count*] **a** : a feeling of being cold ▪ Her symptoms include *chills* and a fever. **b** : an illness that makes you feel cold ▪ He ***caught a chill*** that turned into a bad cold.
3 [*count*] : a sudden feeling of fear ▪ I feel a *chill* (of fear) every time I look at the photograph. ▪ The novel's final scene ***gave him the chills***. ▪ Her words ***sent chills down my spine***.
4 [*singular*] **a** : a cold and unfriendly quality ▪ I felt the *chill* of my opponent's stare. **b** : a change that causes less friendly relations between people, countries, etc. ▪ There has been a *chill* in diplomatic relations. [=diplomatic relations have grown colder]

[2]chill *verb* **chills; chilled; chill•ing**
1 a [+ *obj*] : to make (someone or something) cold or cool ▪ *Chill* the dessert for one hour before serving it. — often used as *(be) chilled* ▪ The spectators *were chilled* by the cold wind. ▪ *chilled* wine ▪ a *chilled* soup ▪ I *was* ***chilled to the bone/marrow***. [=very cold] **b** [*no obj*] : to become cold or cool ▪ Let the dessert *chill* for one hour before serving it.
2 [+ *obj*] : to cause (someone) to feel afraid ▪ Here's a ghost story that will *chill* you. ▪ Her screams ***chilled me to the bone/marrow***. ▪ a horrible sight that ***chilled my bones/blood***
3 [*no obj*] *informal* **a** : to become more relaxed : to become less tense, anxious, or angry ▪ He thinks his parents are way too uptight and says they should just *chill*. — often + *out* ▪ They should just *chill out*. — often used as a command ▪ *Chill* (*out*), man. **b** : to spend time in a relaxed manner ▪ I decided to stay home and *chill*. — often + *out* ▪ She's been *chilling out* with her girlfriends.

[3]chill *adj, somewhat formal* : unpleasantly cold : CHILLY ▪ The nights grew *chill*. ▪ The *chill* weather kept us indoors. ▪ a *chill* wind

chilli *chiefly Brit spelling of* CHILI

chill•ing /ˈʧɪlɪŋ/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : very disturbing or frightening ▪ a *chilling* tale
– **chill•ing•ly** *adv* ▪ *chillingly* cruel ▪ a *chillingly* accurate description of the murderer

chilly /ˈʧɪli/ *adj* **chill•i•er; -est** [*also more ~; most ~*]
1 : noticeably cold ▪ a *chilly* morning ▪ a *chilly* breeze ▪ It's a little *chilly* outside.
2 : feeling cold ▪ I was getting *chilly*. ▪ You must be *chilly* without a coat on.
3 : noticeably unfriendly ▪ They gave him a *chilly* reception.
– **chill•i•ness** *noun* [*noncount*] the *chilliness* of the air [*singular*] She felt a *chilliness* in his voice.

[1]chime /ˈʧaɪm/ *noun, pl* **chimes** [*count*]
1 : a device that produces a sound like the sound made by a set of bells ▪ The clock *chime* struck four. — usually plural ▪ We bought a set of door *chimes*. — see also WIND CHIME
2 : the sound made by a set of bells ▪ the *chime* of church bells — usually plural ▪ We awoke to the *chimes* of a nearby church.

[2]chime *verb* **chimes; chimed; chim•ing**
1 [*no obj*] : to make the sound of a ringing bell ▪ The door bell *chimed*.
2 *of a clock* : to make a ringing sound that indicates the time [+ *obj*] The clock *chimed* midnight. [*no obj*] The clock *chimed*.
3 [*no obj*] : to agree : to be in harmony ▪ The music and the mood *chimed* well together. — often + *with* ▪ His opinion doesn't *chime with* mine.

chime in [*phrasal verb*] **1** : to add your comment or opinion to a conversation or discussion that you have been listening to ▪ He kept *chiming in* with his opinions. ▪ "He left hours ago," Janet *chimed in*. **2** : to be in agreement or harmony *with* something ▪ The illustrations *chimed in* perfectly *with* the story.

chi•me•ra /kaɪˈmirə/ *noun, pl* **-ras** [*count*]
1 ***Chimera*** : a monster from Greek mythology that breathes fire and has a lion's head, a goat's body, and a snake's tail
2 *formal* : something that exists only in the imagination and is not possible in reality ▪ Economic stability in that country is a *chimera*.
– **chi•mer•i•cal** /kaɪˈmerəkəl/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] ▪ *chimerical* [=*imaginary*] dreams of economic stability

chi•mi•chan•ga /ˌʧɪmiˈʧɑ:ŋgə/ *noun, pl* **-gas** [*count*] : a food that consists of a tortilla which is wrapped around a filling (such as seasoned meat) and deep-fried

chim•ney /ˈʧɪmni/ *noun, pl* **-neys** [*count*]
1 : a part of a building through which smoke rises into the outside air; *especially* : the part that sticks up above the roof — see picture at HOUSE; see also *smoke like a chimney* at [2]SMOKE
2 : a tall narrow opening through a large piece of rock (such as a cliff) that can be used for climbing the rock

chimney breast *noun, pl* **~ breasts** [*count*] *Brit* : a part of a wall that extends out into a room to cover a chimney

chim•ney•piece /ˈʧɪmniˌpi:s/ *noun, pl* **-piec•es** [*count*] *Brit* : MANTELPIECE 1

chimney pot *noun, pl* **~ pots** [*count*] *chiefly Brit* : a clay or metal pipe on top of a chimney

chimney stack *noun, pl* **~ stacks** [*count*] *Brit*
1 : the part of a chimney that is above the roof of a building
2 : SMOKESTACK

chimney sweep *noun, pl* **~ sweeps** [*count*] : a person who cleans the insides of chimneys

chimp /ˈʧɪmp/ *noun, pl* **chimps** [*count*] : CHIMPANZEE

chim•pan•zee /ˌʧɪmˌpænˈzi:/ *noun, pl* **-zees** [*count*] : an intelligent animal that is a type of ape and that lives mostly in trees in Africa — see picture at APE

chin /ˈʧɪn/ *noun, pl* **chins** [*count*] : the part of the face below the mouth and above the neck — see picture at FACE; see also DOUBLE CHIN

keep your chin up : to stay cheerful and hopeful during difficult times ▪ He's still *keeping his chin up* despite all his health problems. ▪ (*Keep your*) *chin up*! Everything will work out for the best.

take it on the chin *informal* **1** *US* : to be badly damaged or affected by something : to be hit hard by something ▪ Many investors *took it on the chin* yesterday as the stock market dropped sharply. **2** *Brit* : to accept something difficult or unpleasant without complaining ▪ The criticism was harsh but he *took it on the chin* and didn't try to blame anyone else.

chi•na /ˈʧaɪnə/ *noun* [*noncount*]
1 : a hard white material that is made of baked clay and used to make plates, bowls, etc. ▪ This vase is (made of) *china*. — often used before another noun ▪ a *china* teapot — see also BONE CHINA
2 : plates, bowls, cups, etc., that are made of china ▪ She uses her good *china* when she has company for dinner.

a bull in a china shop see [1]BULL

Chi•na•town /ˈʧaɪnəˌtaʊn/ *noun, pl* **-towns** : the area of a city where many Chinese people live [*noncount*] We had dinner in *Chinatown*. [*count*] — usually singular ▪ There is a *Chinatown* in San Francisco.

chi•na•ware /ˈʧaɪnəˌweɚ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : CHINA 2

chin•chil•la /ʧɪnˈʧɪlə/ *noun, pl* **-las**
1 [*count*] : a small South American animal that has soft gray fur
2 [*noncount*] : the fur of a chinchilla ▪ The collar of the coat is *chinchilla*.

[1]Chi•nese /ʧaɪˈniːz/ *noun*
1 ***the Chinese*** : the people of China : Chinese people ▪ the customs of *the Chinese*
2 [*noncount*] : any one of a group of closely related languages that are spoken in China ▪ He is learning to speak *Chinese*.

[2]Chinese *adj* : of or relating to China, its people, or their languages ▪ *Chinese* history/food ▪ She is *Chinese*. ▪ The custom is *Chinese*. ▪ the *Chinese* writing system

Chinese cabbage *noun* [*noncount*]
1 : BOK CHOY
2 : a type of cabbage from Asia that has a long head and pale, wrinkled leaves

Chinese checkers (*US*) *or Brit* **Chinese chequers** *noun* [*noncount*] : a game in which players move marbles from one hole to another across a playing surface that is shaped like a star

Chinese whispers *noun* [*noncount*] *Brit* : a situation in which a piece of information is passed from one person to the next and is changed slightly each time it is told

[1]chink /ˈʧɪŋk/ *noun, pl* **chinks** [*count*]
1 : a small crack : a narrow opening or space — usually + *in* ▪ We peeked through a *chink in* the fence.
2 *chiefly Brit* : a small amount of light shining through a crack ▪ a *chink* of daylight
chink in someone's or something's armor see ARMOR
– compare [2]CHINK

[2]chink *noun, pl* **chinks** [*count*] : the short sharp sound made when objects made of metal or glass hit each other ▪ We heard the *chink* of coins from the slot machine. ▪ the *chink* [=*clink*] *of* her glass against mine — compare [1]CHINK

Chink /ˈʧɪŋk/ *noun, pl* **Chinks** [*count*] *informal + offensive* : a Chinese person ✧ The word *Chink* is very offensive and should be avoided.

chi•nos /ˈʧiːnoʊz/ *noun* [*plural*] : pants that are made of a somewhat stiff fabric and that are usually very light brown in color

chintz /ˈʧɪnts/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a shiny cotton fabric with a flowery pattern printed on it — often used before another noun ▪ *chintz* curtains ▪ a *chintz* sofa

chintzy /ˈʧɪntsi/ *adj* **chintz•i•er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~]
1 *US, informal* **a** : not showing good taste : not tasteful or stylish ▪ The decorations were very *chintzy*. [=*tacky*] **b** : poorly or cheaply done or made : of low quality ▪ *chintzy* toys ▪ a *chintzy* low-budget film
2 *US, informal* : not willing to spend money or give anything away : stingy or cheap ▪ The boss is *chintzy* about raises.
3 *chiefly Brit* : decorated in or covered with chintz ▪ a *chintzy* cottage ▪ *chintzy* furniture

chin–up /ˈʧɪnˌʌp/ *noun, pl* **-ups** [*count*] *US* : PULL-UP

chin–wag /ˈʧɪnˌwæg/ *noun* [*singular*] *Brit, informal* : a friendly conversation : CHAT ▪ My mother and aunt were having a *chin-wag* in the kitchen.

[1]chip /ˈʧɪp/ *noun, pl* **chips** [*count*]
1 : a small piece that has been broken off from something larger ▪ wood *chips* ▪ *chips* of stone
2 : a place where a small piece of something has broken off ▪ The cup has a *chip* in/on it.
3 : a small piece of candy or chocolate used in baking ▪ chocolate *chips* ▪ ***chocolate chip cookies*** [=cookies with small bits of chocolate in them]
4 a : a thin, hard, and usually salty piece of food ▪ tortilla *chips*; *especially, US* : POTATO CHIP ▪ a bag of *chips* — see also CORN CHIP **b** *Brit* : FRENCH FRY — see also FISH AND CHIPS
5 : a small, flat, round piece of plastic that is used to represent an amount of money in gambling games like poker — see also BARGAINING CHIP
6 : a very small piece of hard material (called silicon) in a computer or other device that contains many electronic circuits ▪ computer/silicon *chips* — see also MICROCHIP
7 *US, informal* : a piece of dried waste matter from an animal ▪ buffalo/cow *chips*
8 : CHIP SHOT 1, 2
chip off the old block *informal* : someone who looks or behaves like his or her parent ▪ His son is a real *chip off the old block*.
have a chip on your shoulder *informal* : to have an angry or unpleasant attitude or way of behaving caused by a belief that you have been treated unfairly in the past ▪ He *has had a chip on his shoulder* ever since he didn't get the promotion he was expecting.
let the chips fall where they may *US, informal* : to allow events to happen without trying to change them ✧ This phrase usually suggests that you are willing to accept a result, whatever it may be. ▪ I will run the best campaign I can, then *let the chips fall where they may*.
when the chips are down *informal* : in a difficult situation : when things are not good ▪ True friends will stand by you *when the chips are down*.

[2]chip *verb* **chips**; **chipped**; **chip•ping**
1 a [+ *obj*] : to break off a small piece from (something) ▪ I bit into something hard and *chipped* my tooth. ▪ He fell and *chipped* a bone in his knee. ▪ She *chipped* a nail. [=she broke a small piece of hardened nail polish off a fingernail] ▪ a *chipped* cup/tooth **b** [*no obj*] : to break or come off in small pieces ▪ China *chips* easily. ▪ The paint had *chipped* off/away.
2 a *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [+ *obj*] : to break off (something) especially with a tool ▪ He *chipped* away the ice from the car's windshield. ▪ The sculptor *chipped* away/off bits of stone. ▪ The geologist *chipped* [=*cut*] the specimen out of the rock face. **b** [*no obj*] : to hit something with a tool in order to break off small pieces — usually + *away* ▪ The sculptor ***chipped away at*** the stone/marble. — often used figuratively ▪ There have been endless efforts to *chip away at* [=gradually reduce] social prejudice. ▪ His failures *chipped away at* his self-confidence.
3 : to hit or kick (a ball) so that it goes a short distance : to hit or kick a chip shot [+ *obj*] The golfer *chipped* the ball onto the green. ▪ She *chipped* the soccer ball over the goalie's head. ▪ He *chipped* a pass to his teammate. [*no obj*] The golfer *chipped* onto the green. ▪ She *chipped* in for par. [=she made a par by hitting a chip shot that went into the hole]
chip in [*phrasal verb*] **1** ***chip in or chip in (something)*** : to give something (such as money) to help a person, group, or cause ▪ We all *chipped in* [=*contributed*] to buy him a gift. ▪ If we all *chip in* [=*help* (*out*)], the work will get done quickly. ▪ We each *chipped in* 10 dollars. **2** *chiefly Brit* : to add your comment or opinion to a conversation or discussion ▪ "He left hours ago," Sue *chipped in*. [=*chimed in*]

chip•board /ˈʧɪpˌboɚd/ *noun* [*noncount*]
1 : PARTICLEBOARD
2 *US* : a type of cardboard made from paper that had been thrown away

chip•munk /ˈʧɪpˌmʌŋk/ *noun, pl* **-munks** [*count*] : a small North American animal that is related to the squirrel — see picture at RODENT

chip•o•la•ta /ˌʧɪpəˈlɑːtə/ *noun, pl* **-tas** [*count*] *Brit* : a small thin sausage

chipped beef *noun* [*noncount*] *US* : smoked dried beef that is sliced thin

[1]chip•per /ˈʧɪpɚ/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *informal + somewhat old-fashioned* : cheerful and lively ▪ My, you're looking *chipper* this morning. ▪ She greeted me in a *chipper* voice.

[2]chipper *noun, pl* **-pers** [*count*] : a piece of equipment that is used to cut wood (such as tree branches) into small pieces ▪ a wood *chipper*

chip•py *also* **chip•pie** /ˈʧɪpi/ *noun, pl* **-pies** [*count*] *Brit, informal* : CHIP SHOP

chip shop *noun, pl* ~ **shops** [*count*] *Brit* : a restaurant that sells fish and chips and other fried foods for people to take away and eat somewhere else

chip shot *noun, pl* ~ **shots** [*count*]
1 *golf* : a very short shot that is made from an area near the green ▪ She hit a *chip shot* onto the green.
2 *soccer + rugby* : a short kick that lifts a ball high in the air ▪ He kicked a *chip shot* over the goalie's head.
3 *American football* : a short and easy field goal

chi•rop•o•dist /kəˈrɑːpədɪst/ *noun, pl* **-dists** [*count*] *chiefly Brit* : PODIATRIST

chi•ro•prac•tic /ˈkaɪrəˌpræktɪk/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a method of treating people who are sick or in pain by pushing and moving bones in the spine and joints
– **chiropractic** *adj* ▪ *chiropractic* care ▪ *chiropractic* adjustments of/to the spine – **chi•ro•prac•tor** /ˈkaɪrəˌpræktɚ/

noun, pl **-tors** [*count*] ▪ My sister goes to a *chiropractor* for her back pain.

chirp /ˈʧɚp/ *verb* **chirps**; **chirped**; **chirp•ing**
1 [*no obj*] : to make a short high-pitched sound ▪ The birds were *chirping* in the trees. ▪ We heard the crickets *chirping*.
2 [+ *obj*] : to say (something) in a cheerful and lively way ▪ "Good morning!" she *chirped*.
– **chirp** *noun, pl* **chirps** [*count*] ▪ the *chirps* of the birds

chirpy /ˈʧɚpi/ *adj* **chirp•i•er**; **-est** [*or more* ~; *most* ~] *informal* : cheerful and lively ▪ a *chirpy*, bright-eyed student
– **chirp•i•ly** /ˈʧɚpəli/ *adv* – **chirp•i•ness** /ˈʧɚpinəs/ *noun* [*noncount*]

chir•rup /ˈʧɚrəp/ *verb* **-rups**; **-ruped**; **rup•ing** [*no obj*] : CHIRP
– **chirrup** *noun, pl* **-rups** [*count*]

[1]chis•el /ˈʧɪzl̩/ *noun, pl* **-els** [*count*] : a metal tool with a flat, sharp end that is used to cut and shape a solid material (such as stone, wood, or metal) — see picture at CARPENTRY

[2]chisel *verb* **-els**; *US* **-eled** *or Brit* **-elled**; *US* **-el•ing** *or Brit* **-el•ling** [+ *obj*] : to cut or shape (something) with a chisel ▪ She *chiseled* the stone/wood/marble. ▪ He *chiseled* off a corner of the block. ▪ Letters were *chiseled* into a wall.

chis•eled (*US*) *or Brit* **chis•elled** /ˈʧɪzl̩d/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : having an attractive well-formed shape — used especially to describe a man's face and its features ▪ a handsome actor's *chiseled* face/jaw/nose
2 : having a strong, muscular body or form ▪ a *chiseled* bodybuilder ▪ He has the *chiseled* body of an athlete.

chit /ˈʧɪt/ *noun, pl* **chits** [*count*] : an official note that shows an amount of money that is owed or gives someone permission to have or do something

chit•chat /ˈʧɪtˌʧæt/ *noun, informal* : friendly conversation about things that are not very important [*noncount*] We exchanged some *chitchat* about the weather. [*singular*] I just had a *chitchat* [=*chat*] with my neighbor.
– **chitchat** *verb* **-chats**; **-chat•ted**; **-chat•ting** [*no obj*] ▪ I was just *chitchatting* [=*chatting*] with my neighbor.

chit•ter•lings *or* **chit•lins** /ˈʧɪtlənz/ *noun* [*plural*] *chiefly US* : the intestines of hogs eaten as food

chi•val•ric /ʃəˈvælrɪk/ *adj* : of or relating to the knights who fought in the Middle Ages ▪ *chivalric* adventures/codes

chiv•al•rous /ˈʃɪvəlrəs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : behaving in an honorable or polite way especially toward women ▪ a kind and *chivalrous* man
2 : showing respect and politeness especially toward women ▪ *chivalrous* behavior ▪ a *chivalrous* act
– **chiv•al•rous•ly** *adv* ▪ He acted *chivalrously*.

chiv•al•ry /ʃɪvəlri/ *noun* [*noncount*]
1 : the system of values (such as loyalty and honor) that knights in the Middle Ages were expected to follow ▪ Medieval *chivalry* ▪ the knight's code of *chivalry*
2 : an honorable and polite way of behaving especially toward women ▪ He paid her fare as an act of *chivalry*.

chive /ˈʧaɪv/ *noun, pl* **chives**
1 [*count*] : a plant that is related to the onion
2 *chives* [*plural*] : the long thin leaves of the chive plant that are cut into small pieces and used for flavoring food ▪ Do you want *chives* on your baked potato?
– **chive** *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ *chive* sauce/butter

chiv•vy /ˈʧɪvi/ *verb* **chiv•vies**; **chiv•vied**; **chiv•vy•ing** [+ *obj*] *Brit, informal* : to try to make (someone) do something more quickly especially in an annoying way ▪ The parents *chivvied* the children along. ▪ They *chivvied* us to finish the job quicker.

chlo•ride /ˈkloɚˌaɪd/ *noun, pl* **-rides** [*count, noncount*] *technical* : a chemical compound of chlorine with another element or group ▪ sodium *chloride*

chlo•ri•nate /ˈklorəˌneɪt/ *verb* **-nates**; **-nat•ed**; **-nat•ing** [+ *obj*] *technical* : to add chlorine to (something, such as water) ▪ *chlorinated* water
– **chlo•ri•na•tion** /ˌklorəˈneɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ *Chlorination* will kill the bacteria in the water.

chlo•rine /ˈkloɚˌiːn/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a chemical that in its natural form is a greenish-yellow gas and has a strong smell ✧ Chlorine in a liquid or solid form is often added to water (such as the water in a swimming pool) to keep it clean.

chlo•ro•flu•o•ro•car•bon /ˌkloroʊˌfloroʊˈkɑɚbən/ *noun, pl* **-bons** [*count*] *technical* : a gas that was once commonly used in various products (such as aerosols) but that is believed to cause damage to the ozone layer in the Earth's atmosphere ▪ Many nations have banned the production of *chlorofluorocarbons*. — abbr. *CFC*

chlo•ro•form /ˈklorəˌfoɚm/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a colorless poisonous liquid ✧ In the past, chloroform was used to make patients unconscious during medical operations. It is now usually used to dissolve other substances.
– **chloroform** *verb* **-forms**; **-formed**; **-form•ing** [+ *obj*] ▪ The doctor *chloroformed* the patient.

chlo•ro•phyll /ˈklorəˌfɪl/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the green substance in plants that makes it possible for them to make food from carbon dioxide and water

choc /ˈʧɑːk/ *noun, pl* **chocs** [*count*] *Brit, informal* : CHOCOLATE 2 ▪ a box of *chocs*

chock•a•block /ˈʧɑːkəˌblɑːk/ *adj, not used before a noun* : very full — usually + *with* ▪ The shelves are *chockablock with* books.

chock–full *or* **chock•ful** /ˈʧɑːkˈfʊɬ/ *adj, not used before a noun* : completely full — usually + *of* ▪ This book is *chockfull of* good information.

choc•o•hol•ic *also* **choc•a•hol•ic** /ˌʧɑːkəˈhɑːlɪk/ *noun, pl* **-ics** [*count*] *informal* : a person who likes to eat chocolate very much

choc•o•late /ˈʧɑːklət/ *noun, pl* **-lates**
1 [*noncount*] : a food that is made from cacao beans and that is eaten as candy or used as a flavoring ingredient in other sweet foods ▪ a bar of *chocolate* ▪ *chocolate*-covered raisins ▪ The cake recipe calls for four squares of *chocolate*. — see also DARK CHOCOLATE, HOT CHOCOLATE, MILK CHOCOLATE, WHITE CHOCOLATE
2 [*count*] : a candy made or covered with chocolate ▪ She gave me a box of *chocolates* for my birthday.
3 [*noncount*] : a dark brown color — called also *chocolate brown*; see color picture on page C3
– **chocolate** *adj* ▪ a *chocolate* cake with *chocolate* frosting ▪ *chocolate* ice cream ▪ *chocolate* sauce/milk – **choc•o•laty** *also* **choc•o•lat•ey** /ˈʧɑːklәti/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ a *chocolaty* flavor

chocolate–box *adj, always used before a noun, Brit, informal* : pretty in a way that seems too perfect to be true or real ▪ a *chocolate-box* house

choc•o•la•tier /ˌʧɑːkləˈtiɚ/ *noun, pl* **-tiers** [*count*] : a person who makes or sells chocolate candy

Choc•taw /ˈʧɑːktɑ/ *noun, pl* **-taws** [*count*] : a member of a Native American people of Mississippi, Alabama, and Louisiana

[1]choice /ˈʧoɪs/ *noun, pl* **choic•es**
1 [*count*] : the act of choosing : the act of picking or deciding between two or more possibilities ▪ He knew he had to make a *choice*. [=choose one thing or another] ▪ He has some important *choices* to make. ▪ You made a good/bad *choice*. ▪ She was faced with a difficult *choice*. ▪ You can either accept the job or not. It's your *choice*. ▪ I read about the various options so that I could make an informed *choice*.
2 : the opportunity or power to choose between two or more possibilities : the opportunity or power to make a decision [*singular*] Given the *choice*, I'd rather stay home tonight. ▪ He had no *choice* in the matter. = He did not have a *choice* in the matter. ▪ You leave me (with) no *choice*. ▪ They gave/offered me a *choice* between an automatic or standard transmission. [*noncount*] A flexible health insurance plan gives patients more *choice* about doctors and coverage. ▪ He had little *choice* in the matter. = He did not have much *choice* in the matter. — see also HOBSON'S CHOICE
3 a : a range of things that can be chosen [*singular*] — often + *of* ▪ The plan has a wide *choice of* options. [=there are many options that can be chosen] ▪ You have the *choice of* coffee or tea. [*noncount*] The menu does not have much *choice*. [=*selection*] ▪ (*chiefly Brit*) Customers are ***spoiled for choice*** [=customers have a lot of choices] when buying a new car.
b [*count*] : one of the things that you can choose ▪ She wanted pizza, but that wasn't a *choice*. [=*option*] ▪ There is a wide range of *choices*. ▪ Other *choices* on the menu looked equally tempting. — see also MULTIPLE-CHOICE
4 [*count*] : the person or thing that someone chooses ▪ He is happy with his *choice*. ▪ She is my first *choice* for the job. [=she is the one I most want for the job] ▪ I don't like her *choice* of friends. ▪ Selling our car was the right *choice*.
by choice *also* ***out of choice*** ✧ If you do something *by choice* or *out of choice*, you choose to do it. ▪ I live here *by choice*. [=I live here because I want to] ▪ No one forced them to do it. They acted *out of choice*.
of choice : favorite or most liked : chosen most often ▪

Wine was his beverage *of choice*.

of your choice ✧ A person or thing *of your choice* is a person or thing that you have chosen. ▪ They said I could bring a guest *of my choice* to the party. ▪ The meal is served with a beverage *of your choice*.

[2]choice *adj, always used before a noun* **choic•er; -est**

1 : very good ▪ The store sells only the *choicest* [=*best*] fruits.

2 *US, of meat* : of a quality that is good but not the best ▪ *Choice* beef is not as expensive as prime beef.

3 *of words or phrases* : carefully chosen especially for the purpose of expressing anger or disapproval ▪ I had a few *choice* words for him. [=I said a few angry words to him]

choir /ˈkwajɚ/ *noun, pl* **choirs** [*count*]

1 : a group of singers especially in a church

2 : the part of a church where the singers sit

preach to the choir see PREACH

choir•boy /ˈkwajɚˌbɔɪ/ *noun, pl* **-boys** [*count*] : a boy who is a member of a church choir

choir•mas•ter /ˈkwajɚˌmæstɚ, *Brit* ˈkwajəˌmɑːstə/ *noun, pl* **-ters** [*count*] : the director of a choir

[1]choke /ʧoʊk/ *verb* **chokes; choked; chok•ing**

1 [*no obj*] : to become unable to breathe usually because something gets stuck in your throat or because the air is not good for breathing ▪ Chew your food well so you don't *choke*. ▪ She *choked* to death. = She died by *choking*. ▪ We were *choking* on fumes.

2 [+ *obj*] **a** : to cause (someone) to stop breathing by squeezing the throat ▪ The murderer *choked* his victim (to death). **b** : to make (someone) unable to breathe in a normal way ▪ The thick smoke was *choking* me. ✧ If you or your voice is ***choked with emotion, rage, etc.***, you are feeling emotion in such a strong way that it is hard for you to talk. ▪ When she was presented with the award, she was so *choked with emotion* that she couldn't say her thank-you speech.

3 [+ *obj*] : to stop (something) from growing or developing ▪ The flowers were *choked* by the weeds. — often + *out* ▪ The flowers were *choked out* by the weeds.

4 [+ *obj*] : to fill (something) completely so that movement is stopped or slowed ▪ Leaves *choked* [=*clogged, blocked*] the drain. ▪ The streets were *choked* with traffic. — often + *up* ▪ Logs were *choking up* the stream.

5 [*no obj*] *informal* : to fail to do something well because you are very nervous ▪ When the pressure was on, the tennis star *choked* and lost the match.

choke back [*phrasal verb*] ✧ If you are ***choking back tears, rage, anger, etc.***, you are finding it very hard not to cry or express emotion. ▪ He was *choking back tears* as he talked about his late wife. ▪ She struggled to *choke back her anger* as she listened to their criticisms.

choke down [*phrasal verb*] ***choke down (something)*** *or* ***choke (something) down*** *informal* : to eat (something) with difficulty or without enjoyment ▪ The meal was overcooked, but I managed to *choke down* a few bites.

choke off [*phrasal verb*] ***choke off (something)*** *also* ***choke (something) off*** **1** : to make (something) smaller, weaker, or less powerful : to cause (something) to slow down or stop ▪ Rising interest rates may *choke off* consumer spending. ▪ Attempts have been made to *choke off* debate on the issue. **2** : to prevent (something) from flowing or getting through ▪ A growth on the artery wall is *choking off* the blood supply.

choke out [*phrasal verb*] ***choke (something) out*** *or* ***choke out (something)*** : to say (something) with difficulty because of strong emotion ▪ She tearfully *choked out* an apology.

choke up [*phrasal verb*] **1** ✧ If you ***choke up*** or ***get/become (all) choked up***, you are almost crying and have trouble talking because of strong emotion. ▪ He *chokes up* whenever he tries to talk about the accident. ▪ She *got all choked up* when she saw her daughter in her wedding dress. **2** *baseball* : to move your hands to a higher position on a baseball bat — often + *on* ▪ He *choked up on* the bat and took a short swing.

[2]choke *noun, pl* **chokes** [*count*] : a part in a vehicle that controls the flow of air into the engine

choke chain *noun, pl* **~ chains** [*count*] : a chain for controlling a dog that is put around the dog's neck and that tightens when the end of the chain is pulled — called also *choke collar*

choke hold *noun, pl* **~ holds** [*count*] *chiefly US*

1 : a method of holding someone by putting your arm around the person's neck with enough pressure to make breathing difficult or impossible ▪ He put the suspect in a *choke hold*. = He used/placed a *choke hold* on the suspect.

2 : a force or influence that stops something from growing or developing : STRANGLEHOLD — usually singular ▪ The state has a *choke hold* on the city's finances. ▪ The tariffs have put a *choke hold* on the economy.

chok•er /ˈʧoʊkɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

1 : a necklace that fits closely around the neck

2 *informal* : a person who fails to do something because of nervousness : a person who chokes ▪ They called him a *choker* when he missed the shot that would have won the game.

chol•era /ˈkɑːlərə/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a serious disease that causes severe vomiting and diarrhea and that often results in death

cho•ler•ic /ˈkɑːlərɪk/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *formal* : made angry easily : HOT-TEMPERED ▪ a *choleric* temperament

cho•les•ter•ol /kəˈlɛstəˌrɑːl/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a substance that is found in the bodies of people and animals ▪ Did your doctor check your *cholesterol*? ▪ She is on medication to lower her *cholesterol level*. [=to lower the amount of cholesterol in her blood] ▪ My doctor told me that ***high cholesterol*** [=having too much cholesterol in your blood] can lead to serious medical problems such as heart attacks and strokes.

chomp /ʧɑːmp/ *verb* **chomps; chomped; chomp•ing** *informal* : to chew or bite on something [*no obj*] — often + *on* ▪ He was *chomping on* a bagel. ▪ The dog ***chomped down on*** its bone. — often + *away* ▪ The children were sitting at the table, happily *chomping away*. ▪ The bug ***chomped away at*** the leaf. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ Lawmakers have been *chomping away at* the state budget. [+ *obj*] They were *chomping* burgers at a picnic.

chomping at the bit : waiting in an impatient way to do something ▪ We've all been *chomping* [=*champing*] *at the bit* to get started on the project.

choo choo /ˈʧuːˌʧuː/ *noun, pl* **~ choos** *informal*

1 [*count*] : [1]TRAIN 1 — used by young children or by adults speaking to young children ▪ Here comes the *choo choo*! — called also *choo choo train*

2 [*noncount*] : the sound a train makes — used by young children or by adults speaking to young children

choose /ʧuːz/ *verb* **choos•es; chose** /ʧoʊz/; **cho•sen** /ʧoʊzn̩/; **choos•ing**

1 : to decide that a particular person or thing is the one that you want [+ *obj*] The political party *chose* a leader. ▪ They *chose* her as the team captain. ▪ We've *chosen* a different time to go. ▪ He was *chosen* because he's qualified for the job. ▪ She was *chosen* from a long list of people. ▪ He *chose* his words carefully. ▪ Which shirt would you *choose*? [*no obj*] How do I *choose* when there's so much available? ▪ Let everyone *choose* for themselves. ▪ You can *choose* from among a number of alternatives. ▪ You'll have to *choose* between the two of them. ▪ There are several books available to *choose* from.

2 : to make a choice about what to do : DECIDE [+ *obj*] — usually followed by *to* + *verb* ▪ They *chose to go* by train. ▪ They *chose* not *to believe* it. ▪ They *chose to keep* quiet. ▪ She *chooses to work* in the city. [*no obj*] You can do as you *choose*. [=you can do what you want to do]

choose sides : to divide a group into two teams that will play against each other ▪ When we *chose sides* in gym class, I was always the last person to be picked to be on a team. — often used figuratively ▪ They are forcing us to *choose sides* in the dispute.

pick and choose see [1]PICK

– choos•er *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] ▪ a careful *chooser* — see also *beggars can't be choosers* at BEGGAR

choosy *also* **choos•ey** /ˈʧuːzi/ *adj* **choos•i•er; -est** [*also more ~; most ~*] : very careful in choosing : liking only certain things ▪ She's pretty *choosy* [=*picky*] about her clothes/friends. ▪ You can't be too *choosy* if you want a job right away. ▪ We could afford to be as *choosy* as we wanted to be.

[1]chop /ʧɑːp/ *verb* **chops; chopped; chop•ping** [+ *obj*] : to cut (something) into pieces by hitting it with the sharp edge of an ax, knife, etc. ▪ She's in the kitchen *chopping* vegetables. ▪ They *chopped* wood for the fireplace. — often used figuratively ▪ They intend to *chop* [=*lower*] prices for the sale. ▪ Our budget was *chopped* [=*cut*] in half. [=it is now half of what it was]

chop and change *Brit, informal* : to keep changing your mind, your way of doing something, etc. ▪ You have to make a decision and stick with it. You can't *chop and change* all the time.

chop down [*phrasal verb*] ***chop (something) down*** *or* ***chop down (something)*** : to cut (a tree, bush, etc.) at the bottom so that it falls to the ground ▪ He *chopped* the tree *down*. ▪ She *chopped down* some thick grape vines.

chop off [*phrasal verb*] ***chop (something) off*** *or* ***chop off (something)*** : to remove (something) by cutting ▪ She'd had her ponytail *chopped off*. ▪ He used his knife to *chop off* a hunk of bread.

chop up [*phrasal verb*] ***chop (something) up*** *or* ***chop up (something)*** : to cut (something) into small pieces ▪ She *chopped up* the nuts and added them to the cookie dough.

– **chopped** *adj* ▪ two cups of *chopped* onions

²chop *noun, pl* **chops** [*count*]

1 : a small piece of meat that usually includes a bone from an animal's side ▪ lamb/pork *chops*

2 a : the act of hitting something with the sharp edge of an ax, knife, etc. ▪ He cut off the branch with a single *chop*. **b** : the act of hitting someone or something with the side of your hand ▪ He broke the boards with a ***karate chop***.

for the chop *Brit, informal* — used to say that someone is going to lose a job or that something is being stopped or canceled ▪ More than 100 jobs are *for the chop*. [=are going/likely to be eliminated] ▪ social programs that are *for the chop* [=(*US*) *on the chopping block*]

get the chop *Brit, informal* : to lose your job ▪ The employees with less experience *got the chop*. [=were fired; got the ax]

give (someone) the chop *Brit, informal* : to take someone's job away ▪ His boss *gave him the chop*. [=his boss fired him; his boss gave him the ax]

chop–chop /ˌʧɑːpˈʧɑːp/ *interj, informal* — used to tell someone to hurry ▪ Let's go! *Chop-chop*!

chop house /ˈʧɑːpˌhaʊs/ *noun, pl* ~ **hous•es** [*count*] *chiefly US, informal* : a restaurant that serves steaks, chops, and other meats — compare STEAK HOUSE

chopped liver *noun* [*noncount*] *US slang* : someone or something that is not important or appealing ▪ "Wow, she's gorgeous!" "And what am I . . . *chopped liver*?"

chop•per /ˈʧɑːpɚ/ *noun, pl* **-pers**

1 [*count*] : someone or something that chops something ▪ a food/wood *chopper*

2 [*count*] *informal* : HELICOPTER ▪ The sound of *choppers* filled the sky. ▪ a *chopper* pilot

3 [*count*] *chiefly US, informal* : a motorcycle that has a front wheel which is farther forward than the handlebars — called also *chopper bike*

4 *choppers* [*plural*] *chiefly US slang* : TEETH ▪ The dentist checked my *choppers* and said they look fine.

chopping block *noun, pl* ~ **blocks** [*count*] *US* : a hard wooden block on which things (such as meat, wood, or vegetables) are chopped or cut — compare CUTTING BOARD

on the chopping block *informal* : likely to be fired, removed, etc. ▪ There were several government programs *on the chopping block*. [=several government programs that were going to be cut/eliminated]

chopping board *noun, pl* ~ **boards** [*count*] *chiefly Brit* : CUTTING BOARD

chop•py /ˈʧɑːpi/ *adj* **chop•pi•er**; **-est**

1 : rough with small waves ▪ The lake was *choppy*. ▪ *choppy* conditions/seas/waters

2 : marked by sudden stops and starts : not connected smoothly ▪ She tended to write in short *choppy* sentences. ▪ The video appeared *choppy* and jerky. ▪ He walked with quick *choppy* strides.

– **chop•pi•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

chops /ˈʧɑːps/ *noun* [*plural*]

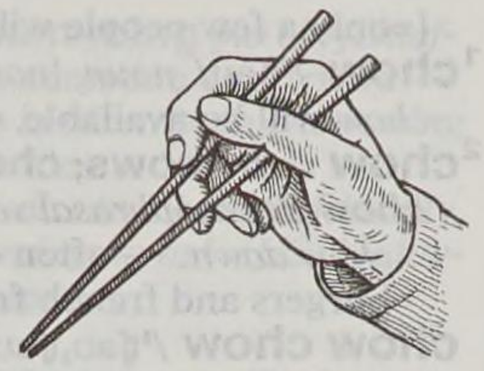
1 a : the part of an animal's face that covers the jaws ▪ The dog was licking its *chops*. **b** *informal* : a person's jaw ▪ I'm going to break/bust your *chops* if you do that again. — often used figuratively ▪ My brother likes to ***bust my chops***. [=he teases me; he criticizes me in a playful way]

2 *chiefly US, informal* : skill or excellence in a particular field or activity (such as acting or playing music) ▪ It's a challenging role that will give him a chance to show off his acting *chops*. [=to show his talents as an actor]

lick your chops see ¹LICK

chop•stick /ˈʧɑːpˌstɪk/ *noun, pl* **-sticks** [*count*] : either one of a pair of thin sticks that are used especially by people in Asia to pick up and eat food

chop su•ey /ˌʧɑːpˈsuːwi/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a combination of vegetables and meat or fish that is served with rice ✧ Chop suey is mainly served in Chinese restaurants and was probably invented in the U.S. by Chinese immigrants to suit American tastes.



chopsticks

cho•ral /ˈkorəl/ *adj* : of or relating to a choir or chorus ▪ a *choral* group ▪ *choral* singing : sung by a choir or chorus ▪ *choral* music

cho•rale /kəˈræl, *Brit* kɒˈrɑːl/ *noun, pl* **-rales** [*count*]

1 : a song that is sung in a church service by a large group of singers

2 : a chorus or choir

¹chord /ˈkoɚd/ *noun, pl* **chords** [*count*] : a group of three or more musical notes that are played or sung at the same time — compare ²CHORD

²chord *noun, pl* **chords** [*count*] *mathematics* : a straight line that joins two points on a curve

strike/touch a chord ✧ If something *strikes/touches a chord* in/with you, you think that it is true and have strong feelings about it. ▪ Her comments about political corruption clearly *struck a chord* with many voters.

– compare ¹CHORD

chore /ˈʧoɚ/ *noun, pl* **chores** [*count*]

1 : a small job that is done regularly ▪ The children were each assigned different household *chores*. ▪ farm *chores* ▪ I liked the simple *chore* of bringing in the firewood.

synonyms see ¹TASK

2 : a dull, unpleasant, or difficult job or experience ▪ Doing taxes can be a real *chore*. ▪ That movie is a *chore* to sit through.

cho•reo•graph /ˈkorijəˌgræf, *Brit* ˈkɒrijəˌgrɑːf/ *verb* **-graphs**; **-graphed**; **-graph•ing** [+ *obj*] : to decide how a dancer or group of dancers will move during a performance ▪ She was hired to *choreograph* the ballet routines. — often used figuratively ▪ He carefully *choreographed* the meeting. [=he arranged the details of the meeting very carefully] ▪ The group had *choreographed* all aspects of the banquet.

– **cho•re•og•ra•pher** /ˌkoriˈɑːgrəfɚ/ *noun, pl* **-phers** [*count*]

cho•re•og•ra•phy /ˌkoriˈɑːgrəfi/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the art or job of deciding how dancers will move in a performance ▪ She studied *choreography*. ▪ He has an interest in *choreography*.; *also* : the movements that are done by dancers in a performance ▪ a show with excellent *choreography*

– **cho•re•o•graph•ic** /ˌkorijəˈgræfɪk/ *adj*

cho•ris•ter /ˈkorəstɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ters** [*count*] : a singer in a choir

cho•ri•zo /ʧəˈriːzoʊ/ *noun, pl* **-zos** [*count, noncount*] : a spicy pork sausage

chor•tle /ˈʧoɚtl̩/ *verb* **chor•tles**; **chor•tled**; **chor•tling** : to laugh because you are amused or pleased by something [*no obj*] She *chortled* [=*chuckled*] with delight. [+ *obj*] He *chortled*, "You're going to love this."

– **chortle** *noun, pl* **chortles** [*count*] ▪ The gift was received with *chortles* of delight.

¹cho•rus /ˈkorəs/ *noun, pl* **-rus•es** [*count*]

1 a : a group of singers and dancers in an ancient Greek play who take part in or talk about the things that are happening on stage **b** : a group of singers and dancers in a modern play, musical show, etc. **c** : a large group of singers : CHOIR

2 a : a part of a song that is repeated between verses : REFRAIN **b** : a piece of music that is sung by a large group of singers ▪ Handel's "Hallelujah *Chorus*"

3 a : a sound made by many people or animals at the same time ▪ We awoke to a *chorus* of birdsong. ▪ The announcement was met by a loud *chorus* of boos. [=people booed when they heard the announcement] **b** : a group of people or animals that are all heard at the same time ▪ The President's policies have been questioned by a growing *chorus* of critics. ▪ a *chorus* of frogs

in chorus : all together : all at the same time ▪ The phones in the room rang *in chorus*.

²chorus *verb* **-ruses**; **-rused**; **-rus•ing** [+ *obj*] : to say (something) all together : to say (something) in chorus ▪ The class *chorused* "Good morning!"

chorus girl *noun, pl* ~ **girls** [*count*] : a girl or young woman who sings or dances in a chorus

chose *past tense of* CHOOSE

¹chosen *past participle of* CHOOSE

²cho•sen /ˈʧoʊzn̩/ *adj* : selected to do or receive something special ▪ Only ***the/a chosen few*** will get to go on the trip.

[=only a few people will get to go]

[1]chow /ʧaʊ/ *noun* [*noncount*] *informal* : FOOD 1 ▪ Ample *chow* will be available. ▪ Let's grab some *chow*.

[2]chow *verb* **chows**; **chowed**; **chow•ing**

chow down [*phrasal verb*] *US, informal* : EAT 1 ▪ It's time to *chow down*. — often + *on* ▪ The kids *chowed down on* hamburgers and french fries.

chow chow /ˈʧaʊˌʧaʊ/ *noun, pl* ~ **chows** [*count*] : a type of dog that has thick fur and a short curled tail — called also *chow*

chow•der /ˈʧaʊdɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ders** [*count, noncount*] : a thick soup or stew made of seafood or corn with potatoes and onions and milk or tomatoes ▪ a bowl of clam *chowder*

chow•der•head /ˈʧaʊdɚˌhɛd/ *noun, pl* **-heads** [*count*] *US, informal* : a stupid person ▪ Any *chowderhead* [=*idiot, knucklehead*] could have told you the answer.

– **chowd•er•head•ed** /ˈʧaʊdɚˌhɛdəd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

chow•hound /ˈʧaʊˌhaʊnd/ *noun, pl* **-hounds** [*count*] *US, informal* : a person who likes to eat ▪ My dad doesn't eat much, but my brother is a real *chowhound*. [=*a big eater*]

chow mein /ʧaʊˈmeɪn/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a combination of meat, mushrooms, and vegetables with fried noodles that is served in Chinese restaurants in the U.S. — compare LO MEIN

Christ /ˈkraɪst/ *noun* [*singular*] : JESUS CHRIST

– **Christ•like** /ˈkraɪstˌlaɪk/ *adj* – **Christ•ly** *adj*

chris•ten /ˈkrɪsn̩/ *verb* **chris•tens**; **chris•tened**; **chris•ten•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to baptize (someone) ▪ He was *christened* when he was three months old.

2 a : to name (someone) at baptism ▪ They *christened* the baby Anna. **b** : to officially give (something, such as a ship) a name in a ceremony that often involves breaking a bottle of champagne ▪ The politician was chosen to *christen* a new ship. **c** : to give (someone or something) a nickname or an unofficial title ▪ The newspaper has *christened* her as the reigning Queen of Tennis.

3 : to use something for the first time ▪ They *christened* the new ball park with a win.

Chris•ten•dom /ˈkrɪsn̩dəm/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 : people who are Christians

2 : the part of the world where most people are Christians — sometimes used in the old-fashioned phrase ***in all of Christendom*** ▪ You will not find a better man *in all of Christendom*. [=*anywhere*]

chris•ten•ing /ˈkrɪsənɪŋ/ *noun, pl* **-ings** [*count*]

1 : the ceremony of baptizing and naming a child ▪ The whole family was invited to the *christening*.

2 : the official ceremony in which something (such as a ship) is named ▪ a ship's *christening*

[1]Chris•tian /ˈkrɪstʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tians** [*count*] : a person who believes in the teachings of Jesus Christ

[2]Christian *adj*

1 : of or relating to Jesus Christ or the religion based on his teachings ▪ *Christian* scriptures ▪ *Christian* ethics ▪ a *Christian* burial

2 : of, relating to, or being Christians ▪ a *Christian* country ▪ a *Christian* household ▪ Many of my friends are *Christian*.

3 [*more* ~; *most* ~] : treating other people in a kind and generous way ▪ He showed a very *Christian* concern for others.

Christian era *noun* [*noncount*] : the time starting from the birth of Jesus Christ — abbr. *CE*

Chris•ti•an•i•ty /ˌkrɪstʃiˈænəti/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the religion that is based on the teachings of Jesus Christ

Christian name *noun, pl* ~ **names** [*count*] : a person's first name : the name given to a person when the person is born or christened ▪ Her *Christian name* is Anna.

Christ•mas /ˈkrɪsməs/ *noun, pl* **-mas•es** : a Christian holiday that is celebrated on December 25 in honor of the birth of Jesus Christ or the period of time that comes before and after this holiday [*noncount*] We're spending *Christmas* with my parents. [*count*] We had a very happy *Christmas* this year. ▪ I wish you all a merry *Christmas*. — often used before another noun ▪ a *Christmas* present ▪ She finished her *Christmas* shopping. ▪ What are you serving for *Christmas* dinner? ▪ the rush of the ***Christmas season*** [=the time of year when people are getting ready for Christmas]

Christmas cake *noun, pl* ~ **cakes** [*count, noncount*] *Brit* : a cake that contains nuts and fruits and that is served at Christmas

Christmas card *noun, pl* ~ **cards** [*count*] : a greeting card sent at Christmastime

Christmas carol *noun, pl* ~ **-ols** [*count*] : [1]CAROL

Christmas cracker *noun, pl* ~ **-ers** [*count*] *Brit* : a paper tube that has a toy or other small object inside it and makes a loud sound when its ends are pulled apart

Christmas Day *noun, pl* ~ **Days** [*count, noncount*] : the day on which Christmas is celebrated : December 25

Christmas Eve *noun, pl* ~ **Eves** [*count, noncount*] : the day before Christmas : December 24

Christmas pudding *noun, pl* ~ **-dings** [*count*] *Brit* : PLUM PUDDING

Christmas stocking *noun, pl* ~ **-ings** [*count*] : STOCKING 3

Christ•mas•sy *also* **Christ•masy** /ˈkrɪsməsi/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : typical of or suitable for Christmas ▪ The house looks more *Christmassy* now that the decorations are up.

Christ•mas•time /ˈkrɪsməsˌtaɪm/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the time of year when people get ready for and celebrate Christmas : Christmas day and the days and weeks before it ▪ It's fun to be in a large city at *Christmastime*. [=during the Christmas season]

Christmas tree *noun, pl* ~ **trees** [*count*] : an evergreen tree that is decorated in people's houses at Christmastime ▪ We hung the lights on the *Christmas tree*.

chro•mat•ic /kroʊˈmætɪk/ *adj, music* : of or relating to a musical scale that has all semitones ▪ *chromatic* harmonies/notes ▪ the *chromatic* scale — compare DIATONIC

– **chro•mat•i•cal•ly** /kroʊˈmætɪkli/ *adv*

chrome /ˈkroʊm/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a type of metal that is used to cover other metals in order to make them shiny

chro•mi•um /ˈkroʊmijəm/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a blue-white metallic element that is combined with other metals and used to cover other metals with a shiny surface

chro•mo•some /ˈkroʊməˌsoʊm/ *noun, pl* **-somes** [*count*] : the part of a cell that contains the genes which control how an animal or plant grows and what it becomes

– **chro•mo•som•al** /ˌkroʊməˈsoʊməl/ *adj* ▪ a test to detect *chromosomal* abnormalities

chron•ic /ˈkrɑːnɪk/ *adj*

1 *medical* : continuing or occurring again and again for a long time ▪ a *chronic* disease ▪ He suffers from *chronic* arthritis/pain. ▪ *chronic* health problems — compare ACUTE

2 a : happening or existing frequently or most of the time ▪ *chronic* [=*habitual*] lateness ▪ a *chronic* need for attention ▪ Inflation has become a *chronic* condition in the economy. ▪ *chronic* warfare **b** : always or often doing something specified ▪ He is a *chronic* complainer/grumbler. [=he complains/grumbles all the time] ▪ a *chronic* gambler/offender

3 *Brit, informal* : very bad ▪ Don't bother seeing that film—it's *chronic*.

– **chron•i•cal•ly** /ˈkrɑːnɪkli/ *adv* ▪ She has a *chronically* bad knee. ▪ He is *chronically* short of money.

chronic fatigue syndrome *noun* [*noncount*] *medical* : an illness that makes you feel very tired for a very long time and that often includes other symptoms such as headaches and weakness — abbr. *CFS*

[1]chron•i•cle /ˈkrɑːnɪkəl/ *noun, pl* **-i•cles** [*count*] : a description of events in the order that they happened : HISTORY ▪ early medieval *chronicles* ▪ a *chronicle* of the American Civil War ▪ a *chronicle* of the President's years in office

[2]chronicle *verb* **-icles**; **-i•cled**; **-i•cling** [+ *obj*] : to describe a series of events in the order that they happened ▪ The book *chronicles* the events that led to the American Civil War. ▪ She intends to *chronicle* the broad social changes that have occurred in this part of the country. ▪ a magazine that *chronicles* the lives of the rich and famous

– **chron•i•cler** *noun, pl* **-clers** [*count*]

chro•no•graph /ˈkrɑːnəˌgræf/ *noun, pl* **-graphs** [*count*] : a device (such as a stopwatch) that is used for measuring and recording time in a very exact way

chro•no•log•i•cal /ˌkrɑːnəˈlɑːʤɪkəl/ *adj*

1 : arranged in the order that things happened or came to be ▪ His art is displayed in roughly *chronological* order. ▪ a *chronological* account of their trip ▪ a *chronological* list/table

2 : using time as a measurement ▪ His ***chronological age*** is five, but his mental age is three. [=he is five years old but he thinks and behaves like a three-year-old]

– **chron•o•log•i•cal•ly** /ˌkrɑːnəˈlɑːʤɪkli/ *adv* ▪ The book treats the subject *chronologically*. ▪ The events were discussed *chronologically*.

chro•nol•o•gy /krə'nɑ:lədʒi/ *noun, pl* **-gies**
1 a [*noncount*] : the order in which a series of events happened • We tried to reconstruct the *chronology* of the accident. **b** [*count*] : a record of the order in which a series of events happened • The book provides a *chronology* of the events leading up to the American Civil War.
2 [*noncount*] : a science that deals with measuring time and finding out when events happened

chro•nom•e•ter /krə'nɑ:mətə/ *noun, pl* **-ters** [*count*] : a watch or clock that measures time very exactly

chrys•a•lis /'krɪsələs/ *noun, pl* **chry•sal•i•ses** *also* **chrys•a•lid•es** /krɪ'sælə,di:z/ [*count*] *biology*
1 : a moth or butterfly at the stage of growth when it is turning into an adult and is enclosed in a hard case
2 : a hard case that protects a moth or butterfly while it is turning into an adult — compare ¹COCOON 1

chry•san•the•mum /krɪ'sænθəməm/ *noun, pl* **-mums** [*count*] : a plant that has brightly colored flowers and that is often grown in gardens; *also* : the flower of this plant — called also (*US*) *mum*; see color picture on page C6

chub•by /'ʧʌbi/ *adj* **chub•bi•er; -est** : somewhat fat • He was always *chubby* as a child. • a baby with *chubby* [=*plump, full*] cheeks
– **chub•bi•ness** /'ʧʌbinəs/ *noun* [*noncount*]

¹chuck /'ʧʌk/ *verb* **chucks; chucked; chuck•ing** [+ *obj*] *informal*
1 : to throw or toss (something) • Someone *chucked* a snowball at me. • She *chucked* the papers into the wastebasket.
2 : to get rid of (something) • You can save some of it, but *chuck* the rest. — sometimes + *out* • She finally *chucked out* her old college notebooks. — see also CHUCK OUT (below)
3 : to give up (something) • He decided to *chuck* [=*abandon, leave*] his career/job. — often + *in* • He grew tired of his job and decided to just ***chuck it (all) in***. [=quit, give it up]
4 : to touch or tap (someone) in a light and gentle way • He affectionately *chucked* her under the chin.
chuck out [*phrasal verb*] ***chuck (someone) out or chuck out (someone)*** : to force (someone) to leave • If they don't pay their rent, the landlord will have to *chuck* them *out*. • He was *chucked out* of the bar for being too noisy. — see also ¹CHUCK 2 (above)

²chuck *noun, pl* **chucks**
1 [*noncount*] : a piece of beef that comes from the area of a cow's neck and shoulders • I'll get some *chuck* for dinner. • a *chuck* roast
2 [*count*] : a part of a machine that holds something so that it does not move • To remove the drill bit, loosen the *chuck*. — see picture at CARPENTRY

chuck•hole /'ʧʌk,hoʊl/ *noun, pl* **-holes** [*count*] *US* : a hole in a road : POTHOLE

chuck•le /'ʧʌkl/ *verb* **chuck•les; chuck•led; chuck•ling** [*no obj*] : to laugh in a quiet way • She *chuckled* at the memory of what he had said.
– **chuckle** *noun, pl* **chuckles** [*count*] • I got a *chuckle* out of the joke. • He said it with a *chuckle*. = He gave a *chuckle* when he said it.

chuck•le•head /'ʧʌkl,hɛd/ *noun, pl* **-heads** [*count*] *US, informal* : a stupid person • Who was the *chucklehead* [=*idiot*] who came up with this idea?
– **chuck•le•head•ed** /'ʧʌkl,hɛdəd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] • He made a *chuckleheaded* decision.

chuck wagon *noun, pl* ~ **-ons** [*count*] *US, old-fashioned* : a wagon carrying a stove and food for cooking for a group of people (such as cowboys)

chuffed /'ʧʌft/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *Brit, informal* : very pleased : DELIGHTED • She's (feeling) quite/very *chuffed*.

¹chug /'ʧʌg/ *verb, always followed by a preposition or adverb* **chugs; chugged; chug•ging** [*no obj*] : to move or go while making a sound like the engine on a train • The train *chugged* up the hill. • The boats were *chugging* across the bay. • The car *chugged* down the street. — sometimes used figuratively • Business is *chugging* along quite nicely. — compare ²CHUG

²chug *verb* **chugs; chugged; chugging** [+ *obj*] *US, informal* : to drink all the beer, soda, etc., in a can or bottle without stopping • He *chugged* a few beers at the party. — compare ¹CHUG

chug•a•lug /'ʧʌgə,lʌg/ *verb* **-lugs; -lugged; -lug•ging** [+ *obj*] *US, informal* : ²CHUG • He *chugalugged* a few beers.

¹chum /'ʧʌm/ *noun, pl* **chums** [*count*] *informal + old-fashioned* : a close friend • They were talking together like a couple of old *chums*. [=*pals*] — compare ³CHUM

²chum *verb* **chums; chummed; chum•ming** [*no obj*] *chiefly US, informal* : to spend time with someone as a friend — usually + *around* • a politician who is often seen *chumming around* [=*palling around*] with celebrities
chum up [*phrasal verb*] *Brit, informal* : to become friendly — often + *to* • businessmen *chumming up to* [=(*US*) *buddying up to*] politicians to get their support
– compare ⁴CHUM

³chum *noun* [*noncount*] : pieces of fish thrown off a boat as bait to attract other fish — compare ¹CHUM

⁴chum *verb* **chums; chummed; chum•ming** [*no obj*] *US* : to throw pieces of fish off a boat as bait to attract other fish — often + *for* • They were ***chumming for*** sharks. [=throwing chum into the water to attract sharks] — compare ²CHUM

chum•my /'ʧʌmi/ *adj* **chum•mi•er; -est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~] *informal + old-fashioned* : very friendly • She was getting *chummy* with the reporters.

chump /'ʧʌmp/ *noun, pl* **chumps** [*count*] *informal* : a person who is easy to trick : a stupid or foolish person • Don't be a *chump*.

chump change *noun* [*noncount*] *US, informal* : a small amount of money : an amount of money that is not important or impressive • His share of the profits was *chump change*. [=his share of the profits was not very big]

chunk /'ʧʌŋk/ *noun, pl* **chunks** [*count*]
1 : a thick piece of something • She cut the fruit into large *chunks*. • *chunks* of meat/ice/wood/pineapple
2 *somewhat informal* : a large amount or part of something • She spends a good *chunk* of her day on the phone. • He devoted a large *chunk* of time to the project. • (*US*) He spent a big/hefty ***chunk of change*** [=a lot of money] on that car.

chunky /'ʧʌŋki/ *adj* **chunk•i•er; -est**
1 : heavy, thick, and solid • She wore *chunky* earrings. • The shoes have *chunky* heels.
2 a : somewhat fat • She was a bit *chunky* [=*chubby, overweight*] as a child. **b** : having a short and strong body • an athlete with a *chunky* build • a *chunky* [=*stocky*] defensive lineman
3 : full of chunks : containing many solid pieces • *chunky* peanut butter

church /'ʧəːʧ/ *noun, pl* **church•es**
1 a [*count*] : a building that is used for Christian religious services • This is the oldest *church* in town. • They would like to be married in a *church*. — often used before another noun • *church* bells/weddings/services **b** [*noncount*] : religious services held in a church • They ***go to church*** [=attend church services] every Sunday. • I didn't see you ***at/in church*** last Sunday.
2 *or* ***Church*** [*count*] : a particular Christian group • He is a member of the Catholic/Baptist/Anglican *Church*. • What *church* do you belong to?
3 [*noncount*] : the Christian religion seen as an organization : the institution of the Christian religion • the *church's* attitude toward divorce • the separation of *church* and state

church•go•er /'ʧəːʧ,gowə/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : someone who regularly goes to church
– **church•go•ing** *adj* • *churchgoing* people – **church-going** *noun* [*noncount*] • a decline in *churchgoing*

church•man /'ʧəːʧmən/ *noun, pl* **-men** [*count*]
1 : a man who is a priest, minister, etc. : CLERGYMAN
2 : a man who is a member of a church

Church of England *noun*
the Church of England : the official state church in England

church•war•den /'ʧəːʧ,woəːdn̩/ *noun, pl* **-dens** [*count*] *Brit* : someone who is in charge of the property and money of an Anglican church

church•wom•an /'ʧəːʧ,wʊmən/ *noun, pl* **-wom•en** /-,wɪmən/ [*count*] : a woman who is a member of a church

church•yard /'ʧəːʧ,jɑəːd/ *noun, pl* **-yards** [*count*] : a piece of land that belongs to and is usually close to a church and that is often used as a place to bury people

churl•ish /'ʧəːlɪʃ/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* : not polite : RUDE • It would be/seem *churlish* not to congratulate him. • *churlish* behavior

¹churn /'ʧəːn/ *verb* **churns; churned; churn•ing**
1 : to stir or mix something (such as water or mud) with force [+ *obj*] The motorboats *churned* the water. — often + *up* • The horse's hooves *churned up* the sod. [*no obj*] The water *churned* all around us.
2 [*no obj*] : to move in a circle : TURN • The wheels/gears began to slowly *churn*.

3 [+ *obj*] : to make (butter) by stirring or shaking cream in a churn ▪ He showed them how to *churn* butter.

4 [*no obj*] : to experience a lot of confused activity ▪ My mind was *churning* as I tried to think of what to say. ▪ Her emotions were *churning* inside her. ✧ If your ***stomach churns*** or something ***churns your stomach***, you feel sick from nervousness, disgust, etc. ▪ Just thinking about the test made my *stomach churn*. ▪ The violence in the movie *churned my stomach*.

churn out [*phrasal verb*] ***churn out (something)*** *or* ***churn (something) out*** *informal + often disapproving* : to produce (something, especially something of low quality) quickly as part of a continuous process ▪ He *churns out* [=*grinds out*] a new novel every year. ▪ the latest graduates *churned out* by the college

[2]churn *noun, pl* **churns** [*count*] : a container in which cream is stirred or shaken to make butter

chute /ʃu:t/ *noun, pl* **chutes** [*count*]

1 : a narrow tube or passage that things and people go down or through ▪ She dropped the towels into the laundry *chute*. ▪ a mail *chute* ▪ children sliding down a water *chute* ▪ The skiers came racing down the *chute*.

2 *informal* : [1]PARACHUTE ▪ His *chute* opened automatically.

out of the chute *US, informal* : since the very beginning ▪ He was successful (right) *out of the chute*.

chut•ney /'ʧʌtni/ *noun, pl* **-neys** [*count, noncount*] : a thick sauce that is made from fruits, vinegar, sugar, and spices

chutz•pah /'hʊtspə/ *noun* [*noncount*] *approving* : personal confidence or courage that allows someone to do or say things that may seem shocking to others ▪ It took a lot of *chutzpah* [=*nerve*] to stand up to him the way she did.

CIA *abbr* Central Intelligence Agency ▪ The group is being investigated by the *CIA*. ▪ a *CIA* agent ✧ The Central Intelligence Agency is a part of the U.S. federal government that is responsible for collecting information about other countries or foreign groups.

ciao /'ʧaʊ/ *interj, informal* : [1]GOODBYE — usually spoken ▪ "See you later." "*Ciao*."

ci•ca•da /sə'keɪdə, sə'kɑ:də/ *noun, pl* **-das** [*count*] : a large insect ✧ The male cicada makes a loud, high-pitched sound. — see color picture on page C10

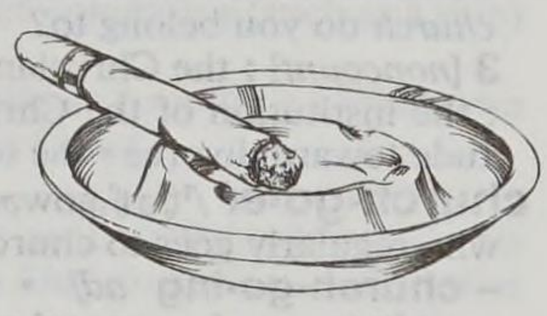
ci•der /'saɪdɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ders** [*count, noncount*] : a drink made from apples ▪ a cup of apple *cider* ✧ In U.S. English, *cider* when used by itself usually refers to a drink that does not contain alcohol. In British English, *cider* refers to an alcoholic drink, which is usually called "hard cider" in U.S. English.

cider vinegar *noun* [*noncount*] : a type of vinegar that is made from apple cider

cig /'sɪg/ *noun, pl* **cigs** [*count*] *informal* : CIGARETTE

ci•gar /sɪ'gɑɚ/ *noun, pl* **-gars** [*count*] : a roll of tobacco leaves that is longer and thicker than a cigarette and that is smoked

close but no cigar see [2]CLOSE



cigar

cig•a•rette /ˌsɪgə'rɛt/ *noun, pl* **-rettes** [*count*] : a small roll of paper that is filled with cut tobacco and smoked ▪ a pack of *cigarettes* — often used before another noun ▪ a *cigarette* butt/holder/lighter ▪ *cigarette* smoke

cigarette paper *noun, pl* ~ **-ers** [*count*] : a small, thin piece of paper that is used for making a cigarette

cig•gie *or* **cig•gy** /'sɪgi/ *noun, pl* **-gies** [*count*] *Brit, informal* : CIGARETTE

ci•lan•tro /sɪ'lɑ:ntroʊ, sɪ'læntroʊ/ *noun* [*noncount*] *US* : leaves of the coriander plant that are used in cooking especially in Asian and Mexican food — see color picture on page C6

C in C *abbr* commander in chief

[1]cinch /'sɪnʧ/ *noun, pl* **cinch•es**

1 [*singular*] *informal* : something that is very easy to do ▪ This recipe is a *cinch*. ▪ This dish is a *cinch* to make.

2 [*singular*] *chiefly US, informal* — used to say that something will certainly happen or that someone will easily do something ▪ It's a *cinch* that he'll win the election. = He's a *cinch* to win the election.

3 [*count*] *US* : a strap that holds a saddle on a horse

[2]cinch *verb* **cinches**; **cinched**; **cinch•ing** [+ *obj*] *US*

1 : to fasten (something, such as a belt or strap) tightly around someone or something ▪ He *cinched* his belt. ▪ The coat is *cinched* at the waist. ▪ The rider *cinched* the saddle.

2 *informal* : to make (something) certain to happen ▪ The candidate *cinched* the nomination by winning the major primary elections. ▪ The home run *cinched* the victory.

Cinco de Mayo /ˌsɪŋkoʊdə'majoʊ/ *noun* [*noncount*] *US* : a Mexican and Mexican-American holiday on May 5 that celebrates the Mexican army's victory over the French in 1862

cin•der /'sɪndɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ders** [*count*] : a very small piece of burned material (such as wood or coal) ▪ *Cinders* from the campfire floated through the air. ▪ The house was ***burned to a cinder*** [=was completely destroyed by fire]

cinder block *noun, pl* ~ **blocks** [*count*] *US* : a block that is made of cement and coal cinders and that is used in building — called also (*Brit*) *breeze-block*

Cin•der•el•la /ˌsɪndə'rɛlə/ *noun, pl* **-las** [*count*] ✧ *Cinderella* is the name of a girl in a fairy tale who is treated badly by her stepmother and stepsisters but who marries a prince in the end.

1 : someone or something that is ignored but that deserves attention or credit ▪ a company that is the *Cinderella* of the computer industry

2 *chiefly US* : someone or something (such as a sports team) that is not expected to do well but that succeeds or wins in a very exciting way ▪ The team is the *Cinderella* of the tournament. — often used before another noun ▪ a *Cinderella* team that surprisingly took the championship ▪ Their win was a classic ***Cinderella story***

cin•e•ma /'sɪnəmə/ *noun, pl* **-mas**

1 [*noncount*] **a** : the film industry ▪ She had a long career in (the) *cinema*. **b** : the art or technique of making movies ▪ a student of French *cinema*

2 [*count*] *chiefly Brit* : a movie theater ▪ We drove by the *cinema* to see what was playing. ▪ They are ***going to the cinema*** [=(*US*) *going to the movies*] tonight.

cin•e•mat•ic /ˌsɪnə'mætɪk/ *adj* : of or relating to movies ▪ a common *cinematic* [=*film*] technique ▪ the actor's first *cinematic* [=*movie*] role ▪ a director who has produced some great *cinematic* moments

– **cin•e•mat•i•cal•ly** /ˌsɪnə'mætɪkli/ *adv* ▪ *Cinematically*, the film was excellent, but it failed at the box office.

cin•e•ma•tog•ra•phy /ˌsɪnəmə'tɑ:grəfi/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the art, process, or job of filming movies : motion-picture photography ▪ The film's *cinematography* is breathtaking. ▪ Who did the *cinematography* for this film?

– **cin•e•ma•tog•ra•pher** /ˌsɪnəmə'tɑ:grəfɚ/ *noun, pl* **-phers** [*count*] ▪ He was one of the best *cinematographers* in the movie industry.

cin•na•mon /'sɪnəmən/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a sweet spice made from the bark of an Asian tree and used in cooking and baking ▪ two teaspoons of *cinnamon* — often used before another noun ▪ a *cinnamon* roll/stick

ci•pher *also chiefly Brit* **cy•pher** /'saɪfɚ/ *noun, pl* **-phers**

1 *technical* : a way of changing a message to keep it secret : CODE [*count*] a *cipher* that can't be decoded [*noncount*] The message was written in *cipher*. [=the message was coded]

2 [*count*] *formal + disapproving* : a person who has no power or is not important ▪ She was nothing more than a *cipher*.

cir•ca /'sɚkə/ *prep, formal* : about or around ▪ He was born *circa* 1600. — abbr. *c., ca.*

cir•ca•di•an /sɚ'keɪdijən/ *adj, always used before a noun, technical* : relating to the regular changes in a person or thing that happen in 24-hour periods ▪ *circadian* rhythms in activity

[1]cir•cle /'sɚkəl/ *noun, pl* **circles** [*count*]

1 a : a perfectly round shape : a line that is curved so that its ends meet and every point on the line is the same distance from the center ▪ She drew a *circle* around the correct answer. — see picture at GEOMETRY **b** : a path that goes around a central point ▪ She walked (around) ***in a circle*** — often used figuratively ▪ We've been walking/driving ***in circles*** [=along the same path or course] for hours! ▪ We've been trying to decide how to improve the system, but we just keep ***going around in circles*** [=we are not making any progress toward making a decision] ▪ I feel like I have been ***running around in circles*** with this project. ▪ The company has come up with some new products that will ***run circles around*** the competition. [=that will be much better than the competition; that will easily beat the competition] ▪ Those little kids can *ski circles around* me. [=can ski much better than I can] — see also FULL CIRCLE, TRAFFIC CIRCLE, VICIOUS CIRCLE, WINNER'S CIRCLE

2 a : an arrangement of people or things that forms a circle ▪ She arranged the stones in a *circle*. = She made a *circle* out of/with the stones. ▪ a *circle* of stones ▪ We formed a *circle* around the campfire. **b :** something that is shaped like part of a circle ▪ He looked old and tired, with dark *circles* under his eyes.

3 : a group of people who do something together, are friends, belong to the same profession, etc. ▪ a sewing *circle* ▪ She has a large/wide *circle* of friends. ▪ the family *circle* [=the people in a family] ▪ She is well-known in banking/literary/professional/political *circles*. — see also CHARMED CIRCLE, INNER CIRCLE

4 *chiefly Brit* **:** a balcony or upper level of seats in a theater

²circle *verb* **cir•cles; cir•cled; cir•cling**

1 a : to form a circle around (something) [+ *obj*] There are trees *circling* [=*encircling, surrounding*] our little house. ▪ He *circled* his arms around his wife's waist. [*no obj*] His arms *circled* around his wife's waist. **b** [+ *obj*] **:** to draw a circle around (something) ▪ She *circled* the correct answer.

2 : to move or go around (someone or something) in a circle [+ *obj*] The pilot *circled* the airport before landing. ▪ We had to *circle* [=go around] the block again to find the house. [*no obj*] The hawk *circled* overhead. ▪ The halfback *circled* to the left. ▪ I ***circled back*** [=*returned*] to the house to get my briefcase.

circle the/your wagons see WAGON

cir•clet /'sɚklət/ *noun, pl* **-clets** [*count*] **:** a band made of metal, flowers, etc., that is usually worn on the head

cir•cuit /'sɚkət/ *noun, pl* **-cuits** [*count*]

1 : a series of performances, sports events, lectures, etc., that are held or done at many different places — usually singular ▪ She will be on a lecture *circuit* [=she will be traveling from place to place giving lectures] promoting her new book. ▪ He is one of the most popular drivers on the (racing) *circuit*. ▪ the women's tennis *circuit*

2 : a path or trip around something ▪ It takes a year for the Earth to make one *circuit* around the sun. — often + *of* ▪ She made a *circuit of* the museum.

3 : the complete path that an electric current travels along ▪ electric/electronic *circuits* ▪ a 120-volt *circuit* — see also CLOSED-CIRCUIT, INTEGRATED CIRCUIT, PRINTED CIRCUIT, SHORT CIRCUIT

4 *US, law* **a** *or* ***Circuit*** **:** a legal district that is established within a state or within the federal judicial system ▪ She was appointed chief judge for the *circuit*. ▪ The case will be heard by a court in the Third *Circuit*. **b *Circuit*** **:** a court of appeals for a particular circuit in the federal judicial system ▪ The Second *Circuit* ruled today against the plaintiff.

circuit board *noun, pl* **~ boards** [*count*] **:** a board that has many electrical circuits and that is used in a piece of electronic equipment (such as a computer)

circuit breaker *noun, pl* **~ -ers** [*count*] **:** a switch that automatically stops the flow of electricity to a place or device if the current becomes too strong or another dangerous problem occurs

circuit court *noun, pl* **~ courts** [*count*] *US, law* **:** a court of law that meets at two or more places within a particular area

circuit judge *noun, pl* **~ judges** [*count*] *US, law* **:** a judge who hears and tries cases in a circuit court

cir•cu•i•tous /sɚ'kju:wətəs/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *formal*

1 : not straight, short, and direct ▪ He took a *circuitous* [=*roundabout*] route to town.

2 : not said or done simply or clearly ▪ a *circuitous* explanation ▪ Their logic seems a bit *circuitous*.

– **cir•cu•i•tous•ly** *adv*

cir•cuit•ry /'sɚkətri/ *noun* [*noncount*] **:** a system or group of electric circuits ▪ computer *circuitry*

¹cir•cu•lar /'sɚkjəlɚ/ *adj*

1 [*more ~; most ~*] **:** shaped like a circle or part of a circle ▪ a *circular* [=*round*] table ▪ They have a *circular* driveway. [=their driveway is curved like part of a circle] ▪ That planet has a more *circular* orbit than our planet does.

2 : moving or going around in a circle ▪ *circular* motion ▪ A *circular* [=*spiral*] staircase leads up to the loft.

3 [*more ~; most ~*] **:** incorrectly using a statement that may not be true to prove an idea or thought that would be false if the original statement was not true ▪ He used *circular* logic/reasoning/thinking. ▪ a *circular* argument/explanation

– **cir•cu•lar•i•ty** /ˌsɚkjə'lerəti/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the *circularity* of her argument

²circular *noun, pl* **-lars** [*count*] **:** a printed sheet (such as an advertisement) that is given or sent to many people at the same time ▪ According to the *circular*, eggs are on sale this week.

circular file *noun, pl* **~ files** [*count*] *US, informal + humorous* **:** WASTEBASKET ▪ I tossed/threw his letter in the *circular file*. [=I threw away his letter]

circular saw *noun, pl* **~ saws** [*count*] **:** a tool used for cutting wood that has a sharp round blade which is spun quickly by a motor — see picture at CARPENTRY

cir•cu•late /'sɚkjəˌleɪt/ *verb* **-lates; -lat•ed; -lat•ing**

1 : to move without stopping though a system, place, etc. [*no obj*] Blood *circulates* through the body. ▪ Steam *circulates* in the pipes. [+ *obj*] A pump *circulates* the water through the filter. ▪ Fans *circulate* the air.

2 a [*no obj*] **:** to go or spread from one person or place to another ▪ Rumors are *circulating* around town. ▪ The report *circulated* among the students. **b** [+ *obj*] **:** to cause (something) to go or spread from one person or place to another ▪ Stories were *circulated* about mismanagement. ▪ He is *circulating* a petition asking for a new election.

3 [*no obj*] **:** to go from group to group at a party or social gathering in order to talk to different people ▪ She *circulated* among her guests.

cir•cu•la•tion /ˌsɚkjə'leɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**

1 [*noncount*] **a :** the movement of blood through the body that is caused by the pumping action of the heart ▪ He has bad *circulation* in his legs. ▪ The drug improves blood *circulation*. **b :** movement of air, water, etc., through the different parts of something ▪ The attic has poor air *circulation*. ▪ the *circulation* of ocean waters ▪ Let's open the windows to get some *circulation* in here.

2 [*noncount*] **:** the act of passing something (such as money, information, etc.) from person to person or place to place ▪ This memo is not meant for *circulation*. **:** the state of being passed from person to person or place to place ▪ The coins have recently entered *circulation*. ▪ That rumor has been ***in circulation*** [=has been going around] for a long time. ▪ The magazine has been taken ***out of circulation***. [=the magazine will no longer be made and sold]

3 [*noncount*] **:** the state of being actively involved in social activities (such as parties or dates) ▪ She's finally getting ***back in/into circulation*** after her divorce. [=she has started dating and going out again after her divorce] ▪ He'll be ***out of circulation*** [=unable to go out socially] for a while after the surgery.

4 [*count*] **:** the average number of copies of a newspaper, magazine, etc., that are sold over a particular period ▪ The newspaper has the largest *circulation* in the country. ▪ The magazine has a weekly *circulation* of about 70,000 subscribers nationwide.

cir•cu•la•to•ry /'sɚkjələˌtori, *Brit* ˌsɚ:kjə'leɪtri, 'sɚ:kjələtri/ *adj, always used before a noun, medical* **:** of or relating to the circulation of blood through the body ▪ the *circulatory* system ▪ *circulatory* failure/problems

cir•cum•cise /'sɚkəmˌsaɪz/ *verb* **-cis•es; -cised; -cis•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to cut off the skin (called the foreskin) at the end of the penis of (a man or boy) — often used as *(be) circumcised* ▪ He *was circumcised* in accordance with religious practice.

2 : to cut off the clitoris or outer sexual organs of (a woman or girl) — often used as *(be) circumcised* ▪ Most of the girls in the village *were circumcised*.

– **cir•cum•ci•sion** /'sɚkəmˌsɪʒən/ *noun, pl* **-sions** [*noncount*] *Circumcision* is an important rite in some religions. [*count*] How many *circumcisions* has he performed?

cir•cum•fer•ence /sɚ'kʌmfrəns/ *noun, pl* **-enc•es**

1 : the length of a line that goes around something or that makes a circle or other round shape [*count*] Calculate the circle's *circumference*. ▪ What is the *circumference* of the Earth at the equator? [*noncount*] The circle is 38 inches in *circumference*. — see picture at GEOMETRY

2 [*count*] **:** the outer edge of a shape or area ▪ The fence marks the *circumference* of the field.

cir•cum•flex /'sɚkəmˌflɛks/ *noun, pl* **-flex•es** [*count*] **:** a mark ˆ used in some languages (such as French) to show how a vowel should be pronounced

cir•cum•lo•cu•tion /ˌsɚkəmlou'kju:ʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** *formal* **:** the use of many words to say something that could be said more clearly and directly by using fewer words [*noncount*] He was criticized for his use of *circumlocution*. [*count*] I'm trying to avoid *circumlocutions* in my writing.

cir•cum•nav•i•gate /ˌsɚkəm'nævəˌgeɪt/ *verb* **-gates; -gated; -gat•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* **:** to travel all the way

around (something) in a ship, airplane, etc. ▪ The ship *circumnavigated* the world.
– **cir•cum•nav•i•ga•tion** /ˌsɚkəmˌnævəˈgeɪʃən/ *noun* [*count, noncount*]

cir•cum•scribe /ˈsɚkəmˌskraɪb/ *verb* **-scribes**; **-scribed**; **-scrib•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 *formal* : to limit the size or amount of (something) — usually used as *(be) circumscribed* ▪ His role as president *was* carefully *circumscribed* by the board. ▪ plants that are found only in a *circumscribed* [=*limited*] area
2 *technical* : to draw a shape around (another shape) ▪ The circle is *circumscribed* by a square.

cir•cum•spect /ˈsɚkəmˌspɛkt/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *formal* : thinking carefully about possible risks before doing or saying something ▪ They are *circumspect* [=*cautious*] in all their business dealings.
– **cir•cum•spec•tion** /ˌsɚkəmˈspɛkʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ a scholar known for her *circumspection* – **cir•cum•spect•ly** /ˈsɚkəmˌspɛktli/ *adv*

cir•cum•stance /ˈsɚkəmˌstæns/ *noun, pl* **-stanc•es**
1 [*count*] : a condition or fact that affects a situation ▪ I can't imagine a *circumstance* in/under which I would do that. — usually plural ▪ If our business is to survive, we must be able to adapt to changing *circumstances*. ▪ It is impossible ***under these circumstances*** to meet our deadline. ▪ Do not, ***under any circumstances***, open that door. = ***Under no circumstances*** are you to open that door. [=no matter what happens, do not open that door] ▪ Due to ***circumstances beyond our control*** [=things that have happened that we cannot change or influence], the flight is canceled. ▪ There is nothing we can do ***under the circumstances*** [=in this specific situation] ▪ ***Given the circumstances***, I think we did well. [=when you consider how everything went, I think we did well]
2 *circumstances* [*plural*] : the way something happens : the specific details of an event ▪ The *circumstances* of his death are suspicious.
3 : an event or situation that you cannot control [*noncount*] She says that her client is ***a victim of circumstance*** and should not be blamed for the accident. [*plural*] He was ***a victim of circumstances***.
4 *circumstances* [*plural*] : the conditions in which someone lives ▪ Their *circumstances* changed dramatically after she lost her job. ▪ I don't know anything about his ***financial circumstances*** [=about how much money he has] ▪ They have been forced to live in ***reduced circumstances*** [=to live with less money]
pomp and circumstance see POMP

cir•cum•stan•tial /ˌsɚkəmˈstænʃəl/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*]
1 *law* : based on information which suggests that something is true but does not prove that it is true ▪ The evidence is purely *circumstantial*. ▪ The case against him is *circumstantial*.
2 *formal* : providing or including the details of a particular situation or event ▪ a *circumstantial* account of the meeting

cir•cum•vent /ˌsɚkəmˈvɛnt/ *verb* **-vents**; **-vent•ed**; **-vent•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to avoid being stopped by (something, such as a law or rule) : to get around (something) in a clever and sometimes dishonest way ▪ We *circumvented* the problem by using a different program. ▪ He found a way to *circumvent* the law.
– **cir•cum•ven•tion** /ˌsɚkəmˈvɛnʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ The *circumvention* of tax laws is illegal.

cir•cus /ˈsɚkəs/ *noun, pl* **-cus•es** [*count*]
1 : a traveling show that is often performed in a tent and that typically includes trained animals, clowns, acrobats, etc. ▪ He worked for a small *circus*. ▪ We're going to the *circus*. ▪ She always wanted to join the *circus*. [=to become a performer in a circus] — often used before another noun ▪ *circus* clowns/animals/performers
2 *informal* : a situation or event that is very busy, lively, and confusing and that attracts a lot of attention — usually singular ▪ The town meeting quickly became a *circus*. ▪ The trial has become a ***media circus*** — see also THREE-RING CIRCUS
3 *Brit* : a circular area where several streets meet — usually used in proper names ▪ Piccadilly *Circus* in London
4 : a large outdoor theater in ancient Rome where shows and sports events were held ▪ the *Circus* Maximus

cir•rho•sis /səˈroʊsəs/ *noun* [*noncount*] *medical* : a serious disease of the liver that can be caused by drinking too much alcohol

cir•rus /ˈsirəs/ *noun* [*noncount*] *technical* : a thin type of cloud that forms high in the sky

cissy *Brit spelling of* SISSY

cis•tern /ˈsɪstɚn/ *noun, pl* **-terns** [*count*] : a container that holds a supply of water: such as **a** *US* : an underground container that is used for collecting and storing rainwater **b** *Brit* : a tank that holds the water for a toilet **c** *Brit* : a tank on the roof of a building that holds water for the building

cit•a•del /ˈsɪtədl̩/ *noun, pl* **-dels** [*count*] : a castle or fort that in past times was used to protect the people of a city if the city was attacked ▪ We visited a medieval *citadel* in Italy. — often used figuratively ▪ The magazine has become a *citadel* [=*stronghold*] of liberalism/conservatism. ▪ the *citadels* of power ✧ In the U.S., ***The Citadel*** is the name of a well-known military college.

ci•ta•tion /saɪˈteɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count*]
1 *US* : an official order to appear before a court of law : SUMMONS ▪ He was issued a *citation*. ▪ He received a *citation* for reckless driving.
2 : a formal public statement that praises a person for doing something good or brave ▪ gave her a *citation* for bravery
3 : a line or short section taken from a piece of writing or a speech ▪ She includes *citations* [=*quotations*] from the article in her report.

cite /ˈsaɪt/ *verb* **cites**; **cit•ed**; **cit•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to write or say the words of (a book, author, etc.) : QUOTE ▪ The article *cites* several experts on the subject.
2 : to mention (something) especially as an example or to support an idea or opinion ▪ The museum had often been *cited* as an example of successful fund-raising. ▪ He *cited* evidence suggesting she was in the area when the crime was committed.
3 *law* : to order (someone) to appear before a court of law ▪ She was *cited* for reckless driving.
4 : to officially and publicly honor (someone) for something done ▪ She was *cited* for bravery.

cit•i•zen /ˈsɪtəzən/ *noun, pl* **-zens** [*count*]
1 : a person who legally belongs to a country and has the rights and protection of that country ▪ She was a United States *citizen* but lived most of her life abroad. ▪ a group of Japanese *citizens* ▪ I've been treated like a ***second-class citizen*** [=someone who is not given the same rights as other people]
2 : a person who lives in a particular place ▪ the *citizens of* Boston — see also SENIOR CITIZEN

cit•i•zen•ry /ˈsɪtəzənri/ *noun, pl* **-ries** [*count*] *formal* : all the citizens of a place — usually singular ▪ an educated *citizenry* ▪ the *citizenry* of Boston

citizen's arrest *noun, pl* ~ **-rests** [*count*] : an arrest made by a citizen rather than by the police

citizens band *noun* [*noncount*] : CB

cit•i•zen•ship /ˈsɪtəzənˌʃɪp/ *noun* [*noncount*]
1 : the fact or status of being a citizen of a particular place ▪ She applied for Polish *citizenship*. ▪ He was granted U.S. *citizenship*. ▪ the rights of *citizenship* ▪ She has ***dual citizenship*** [=she is a citizen of two countries]
2 : the qualities that a person is expected to have as a responsible member of a community ▪ The students are learning the value of good *citizenship*. ▪ She is an example of what true *citizenship* is all about. [=her behavior is an example of how a good citizen should act]

cit•ric acid /ˈsɪtrɪk-/ *noun* [*noncount*] : an acid that occurs naturally in the juices of oranges, lemons, limes, etc., and that can also be made from sugar

cit•ron /ˈsɪtrən/ *noun, pl* **-rons** [*count*] : a fruit that is like a large lemon

cit•ro•nel•la /ˌsɪtrəˈnɛlə/ *noun* [*noncount*] : an oil that smells somewhat like lemons and that is used in candles, lamps, etc., to keep bugs away ▪ a *citronella* candle

cit•rus /ˈsɪtrəs/ *noun, pl* **citrus** *or* **cit•rus•es** [*count*] : a juicy fruit (such as an orange, grapefruit, or lemon) that has a thick skin and that comes from a tree or shrub that grows in warm areas — often used before another noun ▪ *citrus* trees/fruits/farmers
– **cit•rusy** /ˈsɪtrəsi/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] ▪ a *citrusy* flavor

city /ˈsɪti/ *noun, pl* **cit•ies**
1 [*count*] : a place where people live that is larger or more important than a town : an area where many people live and work ▪ major/big *cities* like London, Tokyo, and Rome ▪ ancient/modern *cities* ▪ the *city* of Boston ▪ *city* dwellers/streets ▪ a *city* government ▪ We spent the weekend in the *city*. [=in the nearest big city] ✧ This sense is sometimes used in the name of a city. ▪ New York *City* ▪ Mexico *City* ▪ Kansas *City*
2 a [*count*] : the people in a city — usually singular ▪ I think

the entire *city* has heard the news by now. ▪ The whole *city* was excited about the football game. **b *the city*** : the government of a city ▪ *The city* is working to make the streets safer. ▪ a lawsuit against *the city*

3 *the City* : the section of London that is Great Britain's financial and business center

4 [*noncount*] *chiefly US, informal* — used to describe a place where there is a lot of a particular thing or activity ▪ Their house was pet *city*. [=there were a lot of pets in their house] ▪ It was celebration *city* [=there was a lot of celebration going on] at campaign headquarters last night!

the big city — used to refer to a particular city without naming it ▪ I grew up on a farm, so my move to *the big city* was a big change. ▪ life in *the big city* — see also BIG-CITY

city centre *noun, pl* ~ **centres** [*count*] *Brit* : the main or central part of a city : the part of a city where there are tall buildings, stores, offices, etc. — compare DOWNTOWN, TOWN CENTRE

city council *noun, pl* ~ **-cils** [*count*] : the group of people who make and change the laws of a city ▪ He's running for *city council*.

city desk *noun, pl* ~ **desks** [*count*]

1 *US* : the area in a newspaper's office where stories about local news are written and edited

2 *Brit* : the area in a newspaper's office where stories about financial news are written and edited

city editor *noun, pl* ~ **-tors** [*count*]

1 *US* : a newspaper editor who is responsible for stories about local news

2 *Brit* : a newspaper editor who is responsible for financial news

city father *noun, pl* ~ **-thers** [*count*] *somewhat old-fashioned* : someone who works for a city government — usually plural ▪ The *city fathers* have banned smoking in public places.

city hall *or* **City Hall** *noun, pl* ~ **halls** *or* ~ **Halls** *US*

1 [*count*] : a city government's main building — usually singular ▪ The mayor will be giving a speech on the steps of *City Hall* this afternoon.

2 [*noncount*] : the government of a city ▪ You can't fight *city hall*. [=the city government always wins]

city•scape /ˈsɪtiˌskeɪp/ *noun, pl* **-scapes** [*count*]

1 : the area where a city is and the way it looks ▪ The *cityscape* is cluttered with factories. ▪ the *cityscape* of Philadelphia

2 : a picture that shows part or all of a city ▪ a photographer who does mostly *cityscapes*

city slicker *noun, pl* ~ **-ers** [*count*] *informal + often disapproving* : someone who lives in a city and does not understand what life outside a city is like ▪ *city slickers* who've never seen a real farm

city–state /ˈsɪtiˌsteɪt/ *noun, pl* **-states** [*count*] : a state that has its own government and consists of a city and the area around it ▪ the *city-states* of ancient Greece

city•wide /ˈsɪtiˌwaɪd/ *adj* : including or involving all parts of a city ▪ a *citywide* blackout ▪ The ban on smoking in public places is *citywide*.

civ•et /ˈsɪvət/ *noun, pl* **-ets**

1 [*count*] : a wild animal that is like a cat and that has a long body, short legs, and a long tail ✧ Civets live in parts of Africa, southern Europe, and Asia. — called also *civet cat*

2 [*noncount*] : a substance from the body of the civet that has a strong smell and is sometimes used to make perfume

civ•ic /ˈsɪvɪk/ *adj, always used before a noun*

1 : of or relating to a city or town or the people who live there ▪ Recent improvements to the downtown area are a point of *civic* pride. ▪ the library association and other *civic* groups/organizations/institutions ▪ *civic* leaders

2 : relating to citizenship or being a citizen ▪ Voting is your *civic* duty/responsibility.

civic center (*US*) *or Brit* **civic centre** *noun, pl* ~ **-ters** [*count*]

1 *US* : a large public building for sports events, concerts, etc.

2 *Brit* : a section of a city or town where the public buildings are

civ•ic–mind•ed /ˌsɪvɪkˈmaɪndəd/ *adj* : tending to do things that help your city or town and the people who live there ▪ Town officials are hoping that some *civic-minded* person will volunteer to organize the parade. ▪ *civic-minded* businesses/organizations/individuals

– **civ•ic–mind•ed•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

civ•ics /ˈsɪvɪks/ *noun* [*noncount*] *chiefly US* : the study of the rights and duties of citizens and of how government works ▪ Students will be studying *civics* this semester. — often used before another noun ▪ a *civics* class/project

civ•il /ˈsɪvəl/ *adj*

1 *always used before a noun* : of or relating to the people who live in a country ▪ *civil* liberties/duties ▪ a period of *civil* unrest [=a time when groups of people in a country fight one another] — see also CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE, CIVIL WAR

2 *always used before a noun* : of or relating to the regular business of the people in a city, town, state, etc. : not connected to the military or to a religion ▪ They got married in a *civil* ceremony at city hall. ▪ *civil* institutions

3 *not used before a noun* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : polite but not friendly : only as polite as a person needs to be in order to not be rude ▪ It was hard to be *civil* when I felt so angry. ▪ She was barely *civil* to me. — opposite UNCIVIL

4 [*more* ~; *most* ~] : caring about art, science, government, people's well-being, etc. ▪ She argues that a *civil* [=(more commonly) *civilized*] society takes care of its weakest members. — opposite UNCIVIL

5 *always used before a noun, law* : relating to laws that describe a person's rights rather than to laws about crime ▪ The couple filed a *civil* suit against the company that made the crib. ▪ *civil* cases ▪ rules of *civil* procedure — compare ¹CRIMINAL 2; see also CIVIL LAW, CIVIL LIBERTY, CIVIL RIGHTS

– **civ•il•ly** /ˈsɪvəli/ *adv* ▪ The couple couldn't even discuss things *civilly* [=*politely*] anymore. ▪ "Thank you for helping me, sir," she said *civilly*.

civil defense (*US*) *or Brit* **civil defence** *noun* [*noncount*] : a group of people who are not part of the military but are trained to protect and help people if an enemy attacks their country or if there is a natural disaster (such as a flood or earthquake) ▪ She's in training to be part of the local *civil defense*. ▪ the head of *civil defense*

civil disobedience *noun* [*noncount*] : refusal to obey laws as a way of forcing the government to do or change something ▪ In an act of *civil disobedience*, the family sent its tax money to an antiwar organization. ▪ A student organization is encouraging *civil disobedience* as a way to get the university to change its policies.

civil engineering *noun* [*count*] : a type of engineering that deals with the science of designing and building roads, bridges, large buildings, etc. ▪ He has a degree in *civil engineering*.

– **civil engineer** *noun, pl* ~ **-neers** [*count*]

ci•vil•ian /səˈvɪljən/ *noun, pl* **-ians** [*count*] : a person who is not a member of the military or of a police or firefighting force ▪ The bomb injured 12 *civilians*.

– **civilian** *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ *civilian* casualties ▪ She left the army and began a *civilian* career as an airplane mechanic for a commercial airline.

ci•vil•i•ty /səˈvɪləti/ *noun, pl* **-ties** *formal*

1 [*noncount*] : polite, reasonable, and respectful behavior ▪ Everyone should be treated with *civility*. [=*courtesy, politeness*] ▪ codes/standards of *civility*

2 *civilities* [*plural*] : polite actions and words ▪ They greeted each other with the usual exchange of *civilities*.

civ•i•li•za•tion *also Brit* **civ•i•li•sa•tion** /ˌsɪvələˈzeɪʃən, *Brit* ˌsɪvɪˌlaɪˈzeɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**

1 [*noncount*] : the condition that exists when people have developed effective ways of organizing a society and care about art, science, etc. ▪ modern *civilization* ▪ the impact of technical advancements on *civilization*

2 : a particular well-organized and developed society [*count*] ancient/modern *civilizations* [*noncount*] We are studying ancient Greek/Egyptian *civilization*.

3 [*noncount*] : all the societies of the world ▪ a book about life on the planet after wars have destroyed *civilization*

4 [*noncount*] *informal* : a place that has the things that modern cities and towns have : a place where there is electricity, hot water, etc. ▪ He was sick of camping with his family and wanted to get back to *civilization* and his video games.

civ•i•lize *also Brit* **civ•i•lise** /ˈsɪvəˌlaɪz/ *verb* **-liz•es**; **-lized**; **-liz•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to teach (a person or group of people) to behave in a way that you think is more polite and gentle ▪ Her parents hoped that boarding school might *civilize* her some. ▪ a teacher who had a *civilizing* influence on the students

2 : to make (something) more gentle, fair, reasonable, etc. ▪ He is credited with *civilizing* the treatment of people with mental illnesses. ▪ efforts to *civilize* the health-care system

3 : to cause (a group of people) to have a more highly organized and modern way of living ▪ They believed it was their

duty to *civilize* the native people.

civilized *also Brit* **civilised** *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : marked by well-organized laws and rules about how people behave with each other ▪ A *civilized* society must respond to crime with fairness and justice. ▪ a more *civilized* culture ▪ a person known throughout the ***civilized world*** [=everywhere people live in well-organized and developed societies] — opposite UNCIVILIZED
2 : polite, reasonable, and respectful ▪ Stop yelling. We have to be more *civilized* about this. ▪ a *civilized* conversation ▪ Try to act like a *civilized* human being! ▪ *civilized* behavior — opposite UNCIVILIZED
3 a : pleasant and comfortable ▪ With my new job, I'll be able to start my day at a more *civilized* hour. [=at a time that is not so early in the morning] ▪ a *civilized* way to spend the evening **b :** showing concern for what is correct according to social rules ▪ They lived in a more *civilized* era. [=a time when people were more concerned with what was proper] — opposite UNCIVILIZED

civil law *noun* [*noncount*] : laws that deal with the rights of people rather than with crimes — compare CRIMINAL LAW

civil liberty *noun, pl* ~ **-ties** [*count*] : the right of people to do or say things that are not illegal without being stopped or interrupted by the government ▪ Freedom of speech is a *civil liberty*. — usually plural ▪ Opponents said the law would threaten *civil liberties*.

civil marriage *noun, pl* ~ **-riages** [*count*] : a marriage performed by a person (such as a justice of the peace) who is not a religious leader ▪ a mayor who has officiated at several *civil marriages* this year

civil rights *noun* [*plural*] : the rights that every person should have regardless of his or her sex, race, or religion ▪ Martin Luther King, Jr., fought for *civil rights*. ▪ The U.S. *civil rights* movement achieved equal rights legislation for African-Americans.

civil servant *noun, pl* ~ **-vants** [*count*] : a person who works for the government : a person who works in the civil service

civil service *noun*
the civil service : the part of a government that takes care of the government's basic business : the administrative part of a government — often used before another noun ▪ a *civil service* employee ▪ the *civil service* system ▪ I took the *civil service* exam. [=I took a test to get a job in the civil service]

civil union *noun, pl* ~ **unions** [*count*] *US* : a legal relationship between two people of the same sex that gives them some of the same rights and responsibilities that married people have

civil war *noun, pl* ~ **wars** : a war between groups of people in the same country [*count*] a region that has had many *civil wars* [*noncount*] The country is on the brink of *civil war*. ✧ *Civil war* is capitalized when it refers to a specific war. ▪ the Spanish/American/Greek *Civil War* ▪ a *Civil War* battlefield [=a battlefield of the American Civil War]

civ•vies /ˈsɪviz/ *noun* [*plural*] *informal* : clothing worn by people who are not on military duty : clothing that is not part of a military uniform ▪ I didn't recognize the general in his *civvies*.

civ•vy street /ˈsɪvi-/ *noun* [*noncount*] *Brit, informal* : civilian life : life outside the military ▪ He was trying to make some money in *civvy street*.

CJD *noun* [*noncount*] : CREUTZFELDT-JAKOB DISEASE

cl *abbr* centiliter

clack /ˈklæk/ *verb* **clacks**; **clacked**; **clack•ing** : to make or cause something to make a short sharp sound or series of short sharp sounds [*no obj*] I heard her heels *clacking* down the hall. ▪ An old fan *clacked* (away) somewhere in another room. [+ *obj*] He *clacked* his teeth together.
– **clack** *noun, pl* **clacks** [*count*] — usually singular ▪ the *clack* of typewriter keys ▪ the *clack* of her heels

[1]clad /ˈklæd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *literary* + *formal* **1 :** covered with something specified — usually used in combination ▪ ivy-*clad* buildings ▪ snow-*clad* mountains
2 — used to describe the way someone is dressed ▪ graduating students *clad* in black robes ▪ scantily *clad* dancers — often used in combination ▪ denim-*clad* cowboys ▪ the team's red-*clad* fans

[2]clad *past tense and past participle of* CLOTHE

clad•ding /ˈklædɪŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*] *chiefly Brit* : SIDING 1

[1]claim /ˈkleɪm/ *verb* **claims**; **claimed**; **claim•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to say that (something) is true when some people may say it is not true ▪ The man *claimed* (that) he was a long-lost relative. ▪ They *claim* (that) the drug prevents hair loss. ▪ She *claims* (that) the landlord owes her money. — often followed by *to* + *verb* ▪ He *claims to know* nothing about the robbery. ▪ He *claims to be* an expert.
2 a : to say that you have (something) ▪ He *claims* a connection to British royalty. ▪ The organization *claims* 10,000 members. ▪ He *claimed* ignorance of the robbery. [=he said that he had no knowledge about the robbery] **b :** to say that (something) belongs to you or that you deserve (something) ▪ The terrorist group *claimed* responsibility for the attack. ▪ New Yorkers proudly *claim* the artist as one of their own. ▪ Both of them *claimed* credit for the idea. ▪ No one ever *claimed* authorship for the poem.
3 : to say that you have a legal right to be given (something) ▪ You should *claim* compensation for the hours you worked. ▪ No heirs came forward to *claim* the inheritance. ▪ They *claimed* asylum. ▪ You can *claim* these expenses as tax deductions. [=you can say that you should be able to pay less money in taxes because of these expenses]
4 : to take (something that belongs to you or that you deserve) ▪ She *claimed* her baggage and left the airport. ▪ The exiled king returned to *claim* his rightful place on the throne.
5 — used to say that someone's attention, time, etc., is being given to something ▪ An urgent message *claimed* [=*required, demanded*] his attention. ▪ This issue has already *claimed* too much of our time. [=we have already spent too much time on this issue]
6 : to cause the end of someone's life ▪ The accident *claimed* seven victims. [=seven people were killed in the accident] ▪ the fatal illness that ***claimed her life*** [=caused her death]
– **claim•able** /ˈkleɪməbəl/ *adj* ▪ *claimable* expenses

[2]claim *noun, pl* **claims** [*count*]
1 : a statement saying that something happened a certain way or will happen a certain way : a statement saying that something is true when some people may say it is not true ▪ She makes the *claim* that sea levels will actually go down. ▪ He made false *claims* about his past job experience. ▪ The book makes some extravagant *claims*. [=it includes statements that many people will not agree with] ▪ She disputes/denies the *claim* [=she says it isn't true] that she was unfaithful to her husband. ▪ I make no *claim* to be an expert. [=I don't say that I am an expert]
2 : an official request for something (such as money) that is owed to you or that you believe is owed to you ▪ You'll need to file an insurance *claim* to pay for the damage. ▪ make a *claim* on your insurance policy ▪ All *claims* must be made in writing. ▪ Please fill out this ***claim form***. [=a document with information about why you should be given money]
3 : a right to have something — usually + *on* or *to* ▪ The bank has a *claim on/to* their house and land. ▪ The book would have little *claim on* our attention if not for the fact that its story is true. ▪ the family's *claim to* the name ✧ To ***lay claim to (something)*** is to say that it belongs to you or that you have a right to it. ▪ She *laid claim to* the ring. ▪ The community *lays claim to* (the honor of) being the oldest city in the country. [=it claims to be the oldest city in the country]
4 : an area of land that you take as your own often for a specified use ▪ a mining/timber *claim*
baggage claim *or* ***baggage claim area*** : the area in an airport or bus station where you pick up your luggage after traveling ▪ Call when your plane gets in and I'll meet you at (the) *baggage claim*. ▪ at the *baggage claim area*
claim to fame : something that someone or something is famous for or that makes someone or something important or interesting ▪ His *claim to fame* is the invention of the stapler. ▪ The restaurant's *claim to fame* is its barbecue sauce.
stake (out) a claim see [2]STAKE

claim•ant /ˈkleɪmənt/ *noun, pl* **-ants** [*count*] *formal* : a person who believes that he or she has a right to something (such as an amount of money) : a person who claims something ▪ They are *claimants* to the dead man's estate. ▪ *Claimants* will need to fill out the appropriate paperwork. ▪ a dispute between two *claimants* to the throne

clair•voy•ance /ˌkleəˈvojəns/ *noun* [*noncount*] : an ability to communicate with dead people, to predict future events, or to know about things that you did not actually see happen or hear about ▪ I don't believe in *clairvoyance*, but I can't explain how he knew those things about my grandmother.
– **clair•voy•ant** /ˌkleəˈvojənt/ *adj* ▪ *clairvoyant* powers ▪ a *clairvoyant* man/woman – **clairvoyant** *noun, pl* **-ants**

[*count*] ▪ psychics and *clairvoyants*

clam /ˈklæm/ *noun, pl* **clams**

1 [*count*] : a type of shellfish that lives in sand or mud, has a light-colored shell with two parts, and is eaten both cooked and raw ▪ steamed *clams* ▪ *clam* chowder — see color picture on page C8

2 *clams* [*plural*] *US slang, somewhat old-fashioned* : dollars ▪ He won 20 *clams* [=(more commonly) *bucks*] playing poker.

(as) happy as a clam *US, informal* : very happy ▪ She spent the afternoon reading and was *as happy as a clam*.

²clam *verb* **clams**; **clammed**; **clam·ming**

clam up [*phrasal verb*] *informal* : to stop talking ▪ They *clammed up* when the detectives started asking questions. : to refuse to talk ▪ A bunch of people saw what happened, but they all *clammed up* about it.

clam·bake /ˈklæmˌbeɪk/ *noun, pl* **-bakes** [*count*] *US* : an outdoor party especially on a beach where clams and other foods are cooked and eaten

clam·ber /ˈklæmbɚ/ *verb, always followed by an adverb or preposition* **-bers**; **-bered**; **-ber·ing** [*no obj*] : to climb or crawl in an awkward way ▪ The children *clambered* over the rocks. ▪ We *clambered* up the steep hill. ▪ The passengers *clambered* aboard.

clam·my /ˈklæmi/ *adj* **clam·mi·er**; **-est** : unpleasantly wet and cold ▪ His hand was cold and *clammy*. ▪ *clammy* air

– **clam·mi·ness** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the *clamminess* of the air

clam·or (*US*) *or Brit* **clam·our** /ˈklæmɚ/ *noun*

1 : a loud continuous noise (such as the noise made when many people are talking or shouting) [*singular*] A *clamor* outside woke them in the night. ▪ a *clamor* of voices ▪ a *clamor* of bells [*noncount*] city streets filled with *clamor*

2 : a loud or strong demand *for* something by many people [*singular*] a public *clamor for* an arrest in the case [*noncount*] There is growing *clamor for* reform.

²clamor (*US*) *or Brit* **clamour** *verb* **-ors**; **-ored**; **-or·ing** [*no obj*]

1 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* : to be loud and noisy ▪ The children *clamored* around them, singing songs and laughing.

2 : to ask for or demand something in a loud way ▪ Everyone *clamored* to know what he had decided to do. — usually + *for* ▪ Fans *clamored for* autographs outside the stadium. ▪ People were *clamoring for* news about the trial.

– **clam·or·ous** /ˈklæmrəs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ a *clamorous* [=*noisy*] restaurant ▪ *clamorous* customers/children

¹clamp /ˈklæmp/ *noun, pl* **clamps** [*count*]

1 : a device that holds or presses parts tightly together ▪ a hose *clamp* — see picture at CARPENTRY

2 *Brit* : DENVER BOOT

²clamp *verb* **clamps**; **clamped**; **clamp·ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to hold or press (things or parts of a thing) tightly together with a device : to fasten or tighten (something) with a clamp ▪ The surgeon *clamped* the vein. ▪ He *clamped* the two pieces of wood together.

2 : to press or squeeze (something) ▪ The bit was *clamped* firmly between the horse's teeth. ▪ He *clamped* his mouth shut and refused to speak.

3 *Brit* : ²BOOT 4

clamp down on [*phrasal verb*] ***clamp down on (someone or something)*** : to try harder to punish (people who are doing something that is not legal or proper) ▪ Customs officials are *clamping down on* [=*cracking down on*] smugglers. ▪ The school should *clamp down on* students who cut classes. : to work harder to stop (a crime) ▪ The state is *clamping down on* [=*cracking down on*] drug trafficking. — see also CLAMPDOWN

clamp on [*phrasal verb*] *chiefly US* ***clamp (something) on (something or someone)*** : to officially set (a limit, rule, punishment, etc.) for (someone or something) ▪ The mayor *clamped* [=*imposed*] a curfew *on* the area after the riots. ▪ The new law *clamps* limits *on* the amount of money candidates can spend on election campaigns.

clamp·down /ˈklæmpˌdaʊn/ *noun, pl* **-downs** [*count*] : an increased effort to make sure that people obey laws and rules — usually singular ▪ a security *clampdown* in the city's subway system — usually + *on* ▪ a *clampdown on* drug trafficking ▪ a *clampdown* [=*crackdown*] *on* weapons smugglers — see also *clamp down on* at ²CLAMP

clan /ˈklæn/ *noun, pl* **clans** [*count*]

1 : a large group of people who are related ▪ The tribe is divided into *clans*. ▪ rival *clans* ✧ People in clans often have the same last name. ▪ the McDonald *clan*

2 *informal* : a large family ▪ The whole *clan* gets together for the holidays.

3 *informal* : a group of people who are similar or who are interested in the same thing ▪ the country club *clan* [=people who are members of country clubs]

clan·des·tine /klænˈdɛstən/ *adj, formal* : done in a private place or way : done secretly ▪ a *clandestine* [=*secret*] meeting ▪ a *clandestine* marriage ▪ the spy's *clandestine* [=*covert*] operation

– **clan·des·tine·ly** *adv* ▪ spies working *clandestinely* [=*in secret, covertly*]

clang /ˈklæŋ/ *verb* **clangs**; **clanged**; **clang·ing** : to make or cause (something) to make the loud, ringing sound of metal hitting against something [*no obj*] His fork *clanged* against the plate. ▪ The bells *clanged*. ▪ The pots *clanged* together. ▪ The prison door *clanged* shut. [+ *obj*] children *clanging* cowbells ▪ The guard *clanged* the door shut.

– **clang** *noun, pl* **clangs** [*count*] — usually singular ▪ a dull *clang* ▪ the *clang* of cymbals – **clanging** *noun* [*singular*] ▪ the *clanging* of pots and pans in the kitchen

clang·er /ˈklæŋɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *Brit, informal* : a bad and embarrassing mistake : BLUNDER ▪ a verbal *clanger* ▪ They lost the game after a defensive *clanger*. — see also *drop a clanger* at ²DROP

clank /ˈklæŋk/ *verb* **clanks**; **clanked**; **clank·ing** : to make or cause (something) to make the loud, sharp sound of metal hitting against something solid [*no obj*] The radiator hissed and *clanked*. ▪ The empty can *clanked* along the sidewalk. ▪ the factory's *clanking* machinery [+ *obj*] a ghost *clanking* its chains

– **clank** *noun, pl* **clanks** [*count*] — usually singular ▪ The hammer fell with a *clank* on the floor. ▪ We heard the *clank* of chains. – **clanking** *noun* [*singular*] ▪ We heard the *clanking* of chains.

clan·nish /ˈklænɪʃ/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *often disapproving* : not showing interest in people who are not part of your group or who are not similar to you ▪ a *clannish* fishing community ▪ The college faculty can be pretty *clannish*, so it's difficult to be an outsider there.

clans·man /ˈklænzmən/ *noun, pl* **-men** /-mən/ [*count*] : a person (especially a man) who is a member of a clan (sense 1)

clans·wom·an /ˈklænzˌwʊmən/ *noun, pl* **-wom·en** /-ˌwɪmən/ [*count*] : a woman who is a member of a clan (sense 1)

¹clap /ˈklæp/ *verb* **claps**; **clapped**; **clap·ping**

1 : to hit the palms of your hands together usually more than once ✧ People often clap to show approval or pleasure. [*no obj*] They cheered and *clapped* [=*applauded*] for the band. ▪ She *clapped* in delight when she heard the news. ▪ The audience *clapped* to the beat of the music. [+ *obj*] *Clap* your hands! ▪ The conductor *clapped* her hands twice, and the musicians stopped talking and prepared to play.

2 [+ *obj*] : to suddenly put the palm of your hand on someone or something ▪ He *clapped* his friend on the shoulder. ▪ He *clapped* his hand over his mouth when he realized what he had said.

3 [+ *obj*] : to quickly or forcefully put someone or something in a place or position ▪ He *clapped* his hat on his head and went out the door. ▪ He *clapped* the book shut. [=he closed the book quickly or forcefully] ▪ She *clapped* a muzzle on the dog. ▪ The prisoners were *clapped* in irons/chains.

4 : to hit (something, such as two hard surfaces) together in a way that makes a loud noise [+ *obj*] She *clapped* [=*banged*] the two boards together. [*no obj*] The tree branches *clapped* against the house.

5 [+ *obj*] *informal* : to suddenly put (someone) in prison, jail, etc. ▪ The police *clapped* him in jail for drug smuggling.

clap eyes on see ¹EYE

– **clapping** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ The *clapping* [=*applause*] increased as the lead actors bowed to the audience.

²clap *noun, pl* **claps**

1 [*count*] **a** : a sound made by clapping your hands ▪ a series of drum beats and hand *claps* **b** : a loud, sharp sound ▪ The board fell with a *clap* on the floor. ▪ a *clap* of thunder

2 [*count*] : a friendly hit with the palm of your hand — usually singular ▪ He gave his friend a *clap* on the back.

3 [*singular*] *Brit* : the act of hitting the palms of your hands together again and again to show approval or pleasure ▪ They gave the speaker a long *clap*. [=*round of applause*]

– compare ³CLAP

C

[3]clap *noun*
the clap *slang* : GONORRHEA ▪ He got *the clap*.
– compare [2]CLAP

clap•board /ˈklæbəd, ˈklæpˌboəd/ *noun, pl* **-boards** *chiefly US*
1 [*count*] : a narrow board that is thicker at one edge than at the other and that is used to cover the outsides of buildings — called also (*Brit*) *weatherboard*
2 [*noncount*] : a set of narrow boards covering the outside of a building ▪ the house's decaying *clapboard*
– **clapboard** *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ *clapboard* siding ▪ a *clapboard* house/building [=a house/building that is covered in clapboards]

clapped–out /ˌklæptˈaʊt/ *adj, Brit, informal* : old or damaged from being used too much ▪ a *clapped-out* [=*worn-out*] car/machine ▪ *clapped-out* [=*tired, hackneyed*] clichés

clap•per /ˈklæpɚ/ *noun, pl* **-pers** [*count*] : a metal ball that hangs inside a bell and hits the inside of the bell to make it ring
like the clappers *Brit, informal* : very fast ▪ We drove/ran *like the clappers*.

clap•trap /ˈklæpˌtræp/ *noun* [*noncount*] *informal* : words, ideas, etc., that are very foolish or stupid : NONSENSE ▪ His entire speech was nothing but *claptrap*. ▪ I'm tired of hearing all that *claptrap* about how hard her life is. ▪ romantic *claptrap*

clar•et /ˈklerət/ *noun, pl* **-ets** [*count, noncount*]
1 : a type of red wine made in Bordeaux, France
2 : a dark purplish-red color
– **claret** *adj* ▪ a *claret* gown ▪ a *claret*-colored coat

clar•i•fy /ˈklerəˌfaɪ/ *verb* **-fies**; **-fied**; **-fy•ing** [+ *obj*] : to make (something) clear or clearer: such as **a** : to make (something) easier to understand ▪ Can you *clarify* exactly what it is you're proposing? ▪ Her explanation did not *clarify* matters much. ▪ The president was forced to *clarify* his position on the issue. ▪ The committee *clarified* the manager's duties. **b** : to make (a liquid) purer or easier to see through ▪ a substance used to *clarify* wine
– **clar•i•fi•ca•tion** /ˌklerəfəˈkeɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*noncount*] Your argument needs some *clarification*. [*count*] The newspaper printed a *clarification* [=a statement making the facts clearer] about yesterday's story. – **clarified** *adj* ▪ *clarified* butter [=butter that is made purer by a process that involves heating it] – **clar•i•fi•er** /ˈklerəˌfajɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] ▪ water *clarifiers*

clar•i•net /ˌklerəˈnɛt/ *noun, pl* **-nets** [*count*] : a musical instrument that is shaped like a tube and that is played by blowing into the top of the tube through a special mouthpiece — see picture at WOODWIND
– **clar•i•net•ist** *or* **clar•i•net•tist** /ˌklerəˈnɛtɪst/ *noun, pl* **-ists** *or* **-tists** [*count*]

clar•i•on call /ˈklerijən-/ *noun, pl* ~ **calls** [*count*] : a strong request for something to happen — usually singular ▪ He used his speech to sound a *clarion call* for affordable health care. ▪ the leader's *clarion call* to action

clar•i•ty /ˈklerəti/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the quality of being clear: such as **a** : the quality of being easily understood ▪ The essays are edited for *clarity*. ▪ There is a lack of *clarity* in many legal documents. **b** : the quality of being expressed, remembered, understood, etc., in a very exact way ▪ She remembered what happened that day with surprising *clarity*. ▪ I'm looking for greater *clarity* about what is expected of our students. ▪ The committee lacked ***clarity of purpose***. [=the committee did not have a clearly stated purpose] ▪ a ***moment of clarity*** [=a time when you suddenly understand something] **c** : the quality of being easily seen or heard ▪ The *clarity* of the photographs was amazing. ▪ The DVD has excellent *clarity* of sound. ▪ visual *clarity* **d** : the quality of being easily seen through ▪ the *clarity* of the lake's water ▪ glass with exceptional *clarity* **e** : a lack of marks or spots ▪ The vitamin is believed to improve skin *clarity*.

[1]clash /ˈklæʃ/ *verb* **clash•es**; **clashed**; **clash•ing**
1 [*no obj*] : to be in a situation in which you are fighting or disagreeing : to come into conflict with someone ▪ Police and protesters *clashed* yesterday. ▪ The brothers often *clash* [=*argue*] over politics. — often + *with* ▪ Protesters *clashed with* the police yesterday.
2 [*no obj*] **a** : to look bad or ugly together ▪ Some colors *clash*. ▪ The sofa and the chair *clash*. ▪ She wore *clashing* colors. — often + *with* ▪ This shirt *clashes with* these pants. **b** : to be very different in a way that makes being or working together difficult ▪ Their personalities *clash*. ▪ *clashing* personalities/ideas — often + *with* ▪ So many of his ideas *clash with* mine.
3 : to make or cause (something) to make the loud sound of a metal object hitting another metal object [*no obj*] The cymbals *clashed*. ▪ Their swords *clashed*. [+ *obj*] She ended the song by *clashing* the cymbals.
4 [*no obj*] *of events* : to happen at the same time so that you cannot do or see both — usually + *with* ▪ The time of the picnic *clashes* [=(more commonly) *conflicts*] *with* another picnic I'm invited to.

[2]clash *noun, pl* **clashes** [*count*]
1 a : a short fight between groups of people ▪ Hundreds were killed in ethnic *clashes* in the region last month. — often + *between* or *with* ▪ *Clashes* broke out *between* the police and protesters. ▪ Several protesters were injured in a recent *clash with* the police. ▪ violent *clashes between* the factions **b** : an argument or disagreement between people — often + *between* or *with* ▪ a *clash between* the two leaders ▪ The company has had many *clashes with* environmentalists.
2 : a difference that makes it difficult for people or things to be together or work together ▪ a *clash* of opinions/cultures ▪ We have a personality *clash*. [=we often annoy each other or disagree; we do not get along] — often + *of* ▪ a *clash* of opinions/cultures
3 : a loud sound made by hitting a metal object against another metal object ▪ the *clash* of swords/cymbals
4 : a situation in which two events happen at the same time so that you cannot do or see both ▪ The date of the debate had to be changed because of scheduling *clashes*. [=(more commonly) *conflicts*]

[1]clasp /ˈklæsp, *Brit* ˈklɑːsp/ *noun, pl* **clasps** [*count*]
1 : a device for holding together objects or parts of something (such as a purse, necklace, belt, etc.) ▪ Can you fasten the *clasp* on this bracelet for me? ▪ a tie *clasp* — see color picture on page C11
2 : a strong hold with your hands or arms — usually singular ▪ She took her son's hand in a gentle/firm *clasp*.

[2]clasp *verb* **clasps**; **clasped**; **clasp•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to fasten (something) with a clasp ▪ She *clasped* her purse shut. ▪ He *clasped* the keys to his belt.
2 : to hold (someone or something) tightly with your hands or arms ▪ He *clasped* her hand gently/firmly. ▪ She *clasped* her son in her arms. ▪ She *clasped* her hands tightly in her lap. = Her hands were *clasped* tightly in her lap. [=she held her hands tightly together in her lap]

[1]class /ˈklæs, *Brit* ˈklɑːs/ *noun, pl* **class•es**
1 a [*count*] : a group of students who meet regularly to be taught a subject or activity ▪ There are 20 students in the *class*. ▪ Several people in the *class* are absent today. ✧ In U.S. English, *class* is used with a singular verb. ▪ The *class* is going on a field trip. In British English, *class* can also be used with a plural verb. ▪ The *class* are going on a field trip. **b** [*count*] : a series of meetings in which students are taught a particular subject or activity : a course of instruction ▪ This *class* is really difficult. ▪ He will be teaching an American history *class* next semester. ▪ The college offers *classes* in computer programming and engineering. ▪ She is ***taking a class*** on psychology. ▪ *taking* dance *class* ▪ What *classes* are you *taking* this semester? **c** : one of the meetings in which students are taught a particular subject or activity [*count*] I have an English *class* this morning. ▪ My *class* got out early today. ▪ I have already missed two *classes*. ▪ Read chapters 10 through 20 for the next *class*. [*noncount*] I'm late for *class*. ▪ Let's meet after *class*. ▪ *Class* starts at 8:00 a.m. ▪ What did you learn in *class* today? ▪ He got in trouble for talking during/in *class*. **d** [*count*] *US* : a group of students who finish their education at a particular school at the same time : students who graduate together ▪ She's a member of the *class* of 2006. ▪ the freshman *class* [=the group of students who are freshmen this year and will eventually graduate together] ▪ She's running for *class* president.
2 a [*count*] : a group of people in a society who are at the same economic and social level ▪ the ruling/professional *class* ▪ the higher/lower social *classes* — often used before another noun ▪ *class* distinctions ▪ a *class* struggle **b** [*noncount*] : the way people in a society are divided into different social and economic groups ▪ a discussion about *class* and race
3 [*noncount*] **a** : a quality that makes something or someone seem special and attractive ▪ The hotel has *class*. [=it is very elegant] ▪ The candles on the table added a ***touch of class***. — see also FIRST-CLASS, HIGH-CLASS, WORLD-CLASS **b** : a quality that makes someone seem very good, kind, etc.

▪ She showed a lot of *class* by donating her prize money to charity. — see also CLASS ACT, CLASSY

4 [*count*] **a** : a group of people or things that are similar in some way ▪ Do you have a license to drive this *class* of vehicle? ▪ a new *class* [=*kind, type*] of nuclear submarine ▪ There are many good players here, but she is in a different *class* altogether. [=she is far better than the other good players] ✧ If you are ***in a class by yourself*** or ***in a class of your own***, you are very different from others in a good or bad way. ▪ There have been a lot of corporate scandals but this one is *in a class by itself*. [=worse than all the others] ▪ As an architect, she is *in a class by herself*. [=she has exceptional talent as an architect] **b** : one of the sections of seats on an airplane, train, etc. ▪ I am traveling ***business class***. [=in a section of an airplane that is more comfortable and expensive than the main section but less comfortable and expensive than first class] — see also FIRST CLASS, SECOND CLASS, THIRD CLASS, TOURIST CLASS

5 [*count*] *Brit* : one of the levels of a university degree

²class *verb* **classes**; **classed**; **class•ing** [+ *obj*] : to decide that (someone or something) belongs to a particular group : CLASSIFY — usually used as *(be) classed*; often + *as* ▪ The animal has *been classed as* a fish by some scientists and as a reptile by others. ▪ He *was classed as* a part-time worker.

class act *noun, pl* ~ **acts** [*count*] *informal* : someone who is admirable and usually very fair or polite ▪ She's a real *class act* on and off the soccer field.

class action *noun, pl* ~ **-tions** [*count*] *US, law* : a lawsuit in which many people join together to sue because they all say they were harmed by the same person or group
– **class–action** *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ a *class-action* suit against a car company

class–conscious *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : having or showing a lot of awareness about which economic or social level a person is in : thinking that a person's economic or social class is important ▪ She was never very *class-conscious*, so it surprised her when her classmates talked about the "rich kids" and "poor kids" on campus. ▪ We live in a *class-conscious* society.
– **class–consciousness** *noun* [*noncount*]

¹clas•sic /ˈklæsɪk/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]
1 a — used to say that something has come to be considered one of the best of its kind ▪ *classic* novels/movies ▪ a *classic* case study on hysteria ▪ He collects *classic* cars. **b** — used to say that something is an example of excellence ▪ His winning goal was *classic*. **c** — used to describe something that has been popular for a long time ▪ *classic* board games ▪ The recipe is a new version of a *classic* dish. ▪ a radio station that plays *classic* rock [=rock music from the past that is still popular]
2 : having a graceful design with simple lines ▪ She prefers *classic* furniture designs. ▪ It's a *classic* suit that won't go out of style. ▪ I like the car's *classic* contours.
3 : very typical ▪ The battle was a *classic* example/case of poor planning. ▪ a *classic* error ▪ (*informal*) She lost the tickets? How *classic*. [=it is not surprising that she lost the tickets; she often loses things]

²classic *noun, pl* **-sics**
1 [*count*] : something that has been considered to be excellent for a long time ▪ That car is a *classic*. ▪ film/literary *classics* ▪ I like to read ***the classics***. ▪ Their latest album is ***destined to become a classic***. [=it is very good and will still be admired many years from now]
2 *classics* [*noncount*] : the study of the literature, language, and culture of ancient Greece and Rome ▪ He teaches *classics* at the local university. ▪ She studied *classics* in college. ▪ an interest in the *classics*
3 [*count*] : a traditional event ▪ The football game is a Thanksgiving *classic*.

clas•si•cal /ˈklæsɪkəl/ *adj*
1 [*more* ~; *most* ~] : of a kind that has been respected for a long time ▪ the *classical* [=*traditional*] idea of beauty ▪ *classical* ballet
2 : of or relating to the ancient Greek and Roman world and especially to its language, literature, art, etc. ▪ the *classical* [=*ancient*] and medieval worlds ▪ *classical* literature/art ▪ the *classical* tradition ▪ a *classical* scholar
3 : relating to music in a European tradition that includes opera and symphony and that is generally considered more serious than other kinds of music ▪ *classical* music/composers
4 : teaching ideas about literature, art, science, etc., rather than practical skills ▪ a *classical* curriculum/education
5 : very typical : CLASSIC ▪ a *classical* example of propaganda ▪ the *classical* symptoms of the disease
– **clas•si•cal•ly** /ˈklæsɪkli/ *adv* ▪ a *classically* trained actress [=an actress who was trained in traditional methods of acting] ▪ a *classically* furnished house ▪ Symptoms *classically* include fatigue and muscle soreness.

clas•si•cism /ˈklæsəˌsɪzəm/ *noun* [*noncount*] *formal*
1 : the ideas and styles that are common in the literature, art, and architecture of ancient Greece and Rome ▪ Roman *classicism* ▪ a return to *classicism* in modern architecture
2 : a traditional style of art, literature, music, architecture, etc., that is usually graceful and simple with parts that are organized in a pleasing way ▪ French *classicism* ▪ *classicism* in literature ▪ the *classicism* of the building

clas•si•cist /ˈklæsəsɪst/ *noun, pl* **-cists** [*count*] *formal*
1 : an expert in ancient Greek and Roman language, literature, art, architecture, or culture
2 : someone who prefers a traditional and usually graceful and simple style in art, literature, music, architecture, etc. : a person who favors classicism

clas•si•fi•ca•tion /ˌklæsəfəˈkeɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**
1 [*noncount*] : the act or process of putting people or things into groups based on ways that they are alike ▪ a system of *classification* ▪ the *classification* of diseases/drugs ▪ biological *classification* ▪ the *classification* of new species
2 [*count*] : an arrangement of people or things into groups based on ways that they are alike ▪ job *classifications* for government workers ▪ racial/ethnic *classifications*

¹clas•si•fied /ˈklæsəˌfaɪd/ *adj*
1 : arranged in groups with similar things ▪ a *classified* directory
2 : kept secret from all but a few people in the government ▪ *classified* documents ▪ The memo is *classified*. ▪ The part of the report that includes *classified* information was removed before the report was made public.

²classified *noun, pl* **-fieds** [*count*] : a small advertisement that is grouped with others that are like it in a special section of a newspaper or magazine or on a Web site — usually plural ▪ I've been looking through the *classifieds* for a car I can afford. ▪ job/online *classifieds* — called also *classified ad, classified advertisement,* (*Brit*) *small ad*; compare WANT AD

clas•si•fy /ˈklæsəˌfaɪ/ *verb* **-fies**; **-fied**; **-fy•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to arrange (people or things) into groups based on ways that they are alike ▪ Students will be learning about the ways scientists *classify* animals. ▪ The online system can *classify* books by subject. — often used as *(be) classified* ▪ Drugs *are classified* into different categories. ▪ *classified* according to size/weight
2 : to consider (someone or something) as belonging to a particular group ▪ As a singer, she is hard to *classify*. = It is hard to *classify* her as a singer [=to decide what type of singer she is] — often + *as* ▪ The movie had some funny parts, but I wouldn't *classify* it *as* a comedy. — often used as *(be) classified* ▪ The vehicle *is classified* as a truck.
– **clas•si•fi•able** /ˌklæsəˈfajəbəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ She's one of those singers who are not easily *classifiable*.

class•ism /ˈklæsˌɪzəm, *Brit* ˈklɑːsˌɪzəm/ *noun* [*noncount*] : unfair treatment of people because of their social or economic class ▪ a society plagued by racism and *classism*
– **class•ist** /ˈklæsɪst, *Brit* ˈklɑːsɪst/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ *classist* views

class•less /ˈklæsləs, *Brit* ˈklɑːsləs/ *adj*
1 : without social or economic classes : not grouping people according to their social or economic level ▪ the goal of a *classless* society
2 : not connected to a particular social or economic class ▪ *classless* foods like pizza and ice cream
3 : rude in a way that is annoying ▪ *classless* behavior
– **class•less•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

class•mate /ˈklæsˌmeɪt, *Brit* ˈklɑːsˌmeɪt/ *noun, pl* **-mates** [*count*] : a member of the same class in a school, college, or university ✧ *Classmate* can refer to someone who is taking the same class as you or to someone who will graduate from your school or college in the same year as you. ▪ We were *classmates* in high school. ▪ She invited all of her *classmates* to her birthday party.

class•room /ˈklæsˌruːm, *Brit* ˈklɑːsˌruːm/ *noun, pl* **-rooms** [*count*] : a room where classes are taught in a school, college, or university

class•work /klæsˌwɚk, *Brit* ˈklɑːsˌwəːk/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the part of a student's work that is done in a class and not

at home ▪ All of the students have finished their *classwork* for today. — compare HOMEWORK

classy /ˈklæsi, *Brit* ˈklɑːsi/ *adj* **class•i•er**; **-est** [*or more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : having qualities that make someone or something special and attractive ▪ a *classy* [=*fancy, high-class, upscale*] hotel ▪ the *classiest* nightclub in Madrid ▪ The spa boasts some very *classy* clients.
2 : showing impressive character : very good, kind, etc. ▪ a *classy* guy ▪ Donating her salary bonus to charity was a really *classy* thing to do.
– class•i•ness *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the hotel's *classiness*

clat•ter /ˈklætɚ/ *verb, always followed by an adverb or preposition* **-ters**; **-tered**; **-ter•ing** [*no obj*] : to make a quick series of short loud sounds ▪ The shutters *clattered* against the house. ▪ He heard dishes *clattering* in the kitchen. ▪ The box dropped and dozens of marbles *clattered* across the floor. ▪ The wagon *clattered* down the road.
– clatter *noun, pl* **-ters** [*count*] — usually singular ▪ the *clatter* of dishes **– clattering** *noun* [*singular*] ▪ the *clattering* of dishes

clause /ˈklɑːz/ *noun, pl* **claus•es** [*count*]
1 *grammar* : a part of a sentence that has its own subject and verb ▪ The sentence "When it rained they went inside" consists of two *clauses*: "when it rained" and "they went inside."
2 : a separate part of a legal document ▪ a *clause* in a will/contract — see also GRANDFATHER CLAUSE

claus•tro•pho•bia /ˌklɑːstrəˈfoʊbijə/ *noun* [*noncount*]
1 : a fear of being in closed or small spaces ▪ She doesn't go in elevators because of her *claustrophobia*. — compare AGORAPHOBIA
2 : an unhappy or uncomfortable feeling caused by being in a situation that limits or restricts you ▪ the *claustrophobia* of small-town life

claus•tro•pho•bic /ˌklɑːstrəˈfoʊbɪk/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]
1 *of a room, space, etc.* : not having enough space for people to feel comfortable : causing claustrophobia ▪ The theater can be a little *claustrophobic* when it's full.
2 : having a fear of being in closed or small spaces : having claustrophobia ▪ She doesn't go in elevators because she is *claustrophobic*.
3 : not having or providing enough freedom ▪ a very *claustrophic* relationship
– claus•tro•pho•bi•cal•ly /ˌklɑːstrəˈfoʊbɪkli/ *adv* ▪ a *claustrophobically* small room

clav•i•chord /ˈklævəˌkoɚd/ *noun, pl* **-chords** [*count*] : a musical instrument that is similar to a piano and was played mostly in the past before the piano was invented

clav•i•cle /ˈklævɪkəl/ *noun, pl* **clav•i•cles** [*count*] *medical* : COLLARBONE — see picture at HUMAN

[1]claw /ˈklɑː/ *noun, pl* **claws** [*count*]
1 : a sharp curved part on the toe of an animal (such as a cat or bird) ▪ The eagle was carrying a mouse in its sharp *claws*. ▪ the bear's *claws* — often used figuratively ▪ They've only been dating for a few months and already she's ***got her claws into*** him! [=she already has control over him] ▪ (*chiefly Brit*) The press has been *getting its claws into* him. [=has been attacking/criticizing him] ▪ They're still trying to ***get their claws on*** her money. [=to get her money]
2 : a body part of an animal (such as a lobster or crab) that is used for gripping and holding things
3 : a part on a tool or machine that is used for gripping, digging, etc. ▪ The excavating machine's *claw* dug into the earth. ▪ the *claw* of a hammer — see picture at CARPENTRY
– see also BEAR CLAW
– clawed /ˈklɑːd/ *adj* ▪ a *clawed* foot

[2]claw *verb* **claws**; **clawed**; **claw•ing** : to scratch, grip, or dig with claws or fingers [*no obj*] — usually + *at* ▪ The cat *claws at* the door when she wants to go outside. ▪ The dog was *clawing at* the dirt. ▪ She desperately *clawed at* her attacker's face. [+ *obj*] How can we stop the cat from *clawing* the drapes/curtains? ▪ The dog *clawed* a hole in the carpet. ▪ She tried to *claw* his face with her fingernails.
claw back [*phrasal verb*] ***claw (something) back*** *or* ***claw back (something)*** *chiefly Brit* : to get back (something, such as money or business) by acting in a forceful way or by doing something that requires a lot of effort ▪ With budget cuts looming, the government is trying to *claw back* some of the money it promised to state agencies.
claw your way : to move ahead slowly by grabbing onto things ▪ The climbers *clawed their way* up the steep terrain. — often used figuratively ▪ The company is *clawing its way* out of bankruptcy. ▪ He *clawed his way* to the top of his profession.

claw hammer *noun* ~ **-mers** [*count*] : a hammer with a head that is curved and partially split in the back so that it can be used for pulling out nails

clay /ˈkleɪ/ *noun, pl* **clays** [*count, noncount*] : a heavy, sticky material from the earth that is made into different shapes and that becomes hard when it is baked or dried ✧ Clay is used to make pots, bricks, tiles, etc. — often used before another noun ▪ a *clay* pot/pipe/tablet
feet of clay see [1]FOOT
– claylike *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ a *claylike* substance

clay•ey /ˈkleji/ *adj* : containing a lot of clay ▪ a *clayey* soil

clay pigeon *noun, pl* ~ **-geons** [*count*] : a circular object made of baked clay that people throw into the air and shoot at to practice their shooting skills

[1]clean /ˈkliːn/ *adj* **clean•er**; **-est**
1 : free from dirt, marks, etc. : not dirty ▪ a *clean* floor ▪ This table isn't *clean*. There's a sticky spot where something spilled. ▪ He keeps a very *clean* house. ▪ The janitor does a good job of keeping the office *clean*. ▪ *clean* laundry/socks/towels/sheets ▪ I wiped the baby's face *clean*.
2 : tending to keep clean ▪ He's a *clean* young man. ▪ Cats are very *clean* animals.
3 a : free from pollution or other dangerous substances ▪ *clean* air/water **b :** not causing pollution ▪ Solar power provides *clean* energy. ▪ a *clean* fuel
4 a : not yet used ▪ a *clean* [=*blank, fresh*] piece/sheet of paper **b** *of a document* : not having any mistakes ▪ We need a ***clean copy*** of the document.
5 : not infected ▪ a *clean* wound
6 : pleasingly simple ▪ I like the *clean* simplicity of the chair's design. ▪ She wore a formal wool suit with ***clean lines***.
7 : having edges that are straight and smooth ▪ a *clean* cut ▪ The vase was broken, but it was a *clean* break and easily repaired with a little glue.
8 : completely and quickly done ▪ The bank robbers made a *clean* getaway. ▪ When he left home, he made a ***clean break*** with the past. [=he completely separated himself from everything that had been part of his life]
9 *sports* : done in a skillful and impressive way without mistakes or awkwardness ▪ a *clean* dive/catch/hit ▪ The gymnast made a *clean* landing.
10 : not showing evidence of any broken rules or laws ▪ She has a *clean* driving record. — see also CLEAN SLATE (below)
11 a : not connected with or involving anything illegal or morally wrong ▪ a *clean* candidate ▪ They believe in hard work and *clean* living. ▪ The party was good, *clean* fun. **b :** not referring to anything sexual or offensive ▪ Only *clean* jokes, please. There are children here. ▪ *clean* language
12 *not used before a noun* : no longer using drugs : not addicted to drugs ▪ He's been *clean* for five years. ▪ *clean* and sober
13 *not used before a noun, informal* : not carrying any weapons, drugs, etc. ▪ All visitors to the prison are searched to make sure they're *clean*. ▪ I checked her; she's *clean*.
clean as a whistle see [1]WHISTLE
clean slate *also Brit* ***clean sheet*** **1 :** a person's record (as from a school or a job) that shows no evidence of any problems, broken rules, etc. : a clean record ▪ Everyone who comes to this school starts with a *clean slate*. **2** ***clean sheet*** *Brit* : a game in which the opposing team is prevented from scoring ▪ The team's star goalie has had five *clean sheets* [=(*US*) *shutouts*] this season. [=has prevented the other team from scoring in five games]
clean sweep **1 :** a victory in which one side or team wins every game, contest, etc. ▪ The Red Sox won the series in a *clean sweep*. ▪ The election was a *clean sweep* for local Democratic candidates. **2 :** a complete change in something ▪ The new governor has made a *clean sweep* of the staff in the governor's mansion. [=the new governor completely replaced the former governor's staff]
come clean *informal* : to tell the truth about what happened : to stop hiding the truth ▪ Eventually she *came clean* and helped the police recover the goods she'd stolen. ▪ He's finally *come clean* about his role in the scandal.
give (someone or something) a clean bill of health see [1]BILL
keep your nose clean see [1]NOSE
make a clean breast of see [1]BREAST
wipe the slate clean see [1]WIPE
– clean•ness /ˈkliːnnəs/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the *cleanness* of the image

²clean *verb* **cleans; cleaned; clean•ing**

1 a : to make (something) clean : to remove dirt, marks, etc., from (something) [+ *obj*] The carpet needs to be *cleaned*. ▪ *clean* your fingernails ▪ clean [=*brush*] your teeth ▪ *clean* [=*wash*] the windows [*no obj*] They divide household duties so that she *cleans* and her husband cooks. — see also CLEAN UP 1a (below) **b** [*no obj*] : to become clean ▪ The pan has a surface that *cleans* easily. [=that is easy to clean]

2 [+ *obj*] : to make (something, such as a room) neat and orderly ▪ *Clean* your room. — see also CLEAN OUT 1 (below), CLEAN UP 1b (below)

3 [+ *obj*] : to remove the organs from the inside of (an animal) before cooking ▪ They *cleaned* the fish and cooked them on the campfire. ▪ skin and *clean* a rabbit/deer

clean house see ¹HOUSE

clean out [*phrasal verb*] **1 *clean (something) out* or *clean out (something)*** : to remove unwanted things from (a room, closet, etc.) ▪ We spent the weekend *cleaning out* the garage. [=clearing unwanted items from the garage] ▪ I need to *clean out* my purse. **2 *clean (someone or something) out* or *clean out (someone or something)*** *informal* : to steal or take everything from (someone or something) ▪ The thieves broke in and *cleaned out* the store. ▪ She fell for the scheme and was *cleaned out*. [=all her money was taken] **3 *clean (someone) out* or *clean out (someone)*** *informal* : to use up all or most of someone's money ▪ Buying the house really *cleaned* us *out*. Now we're broke.

clean up [*phrasal verb*] **1 *clean (something) up* or *clean up (something)*** **a** : to remove (dirt, spilled substances, etc.) ▪ Would you mind *cleaning up* the spilled milk? ▪ It will only take a moment to *clean* this mess *up*. **b** *or* ***clean up*** : to make (a room or space) clean and orderly ▪ Would you mind helping me *clean up* the kitchen after dinner? ▪ We stayed late to help them *clean up*. ✧ To ***clean up after*** someone is to make a place clean after someone has made it dirty or messy. ▪ His mother is always *cleaning up after* him. ▪ You should learn to *clean up after* yourself. **c** : to remove pollution from (something) ▪ The city has *cleaned up* the bay in recent years. — see also CLEANUP **2 *clean up* or *clean (yourself) up*** : to make yourself clean : to wash your face and hands ▪ I'm sure you'll want to *clean up* after a full day of traveling. ▪ I just need a few minutes to *clean myself up* before dinner. ▪ The children are inside getting *cleaned up*. **3 *clean (something) up* or *clean up (something)*** **a** : to remove whatever is illegal or immoral from (something) ▪ The new mayor has really *cleaned up* city hall. [=has made the city government less corrupt] **b** : to make (something) clearer or more acceptable ▪ We were able to *clean up* the sound on the recording using special equipment. ▪ He's *cleaned up* his image since his early rock music days. **4 *clean (something) up* or *clean up (something)*** *informal* : to eat all of (something) ▪ The teenagers *cleaned up* [=(more commonly) *polished off*] the pizza in a matter of minutes. **5** *informal* : to make a large amount of money ▪ She really *cleaned up* last year in the stock market. **6 *clean up your act*** *informal* : to behave in a way that is more acceptable ▪ After years of drug abuse, she finally got treatment and *cleaned up her act*.

clean your plate : to eat all the food on your plate ▪ The children were not allowed to have dessert until they had *cleaned their plates*. ***usage*** see CLEANSE

³clean *adv, informal* : all the way : completely or entirely ▪ Somehow, the top of the machine came *clean* off. ▪ The nail went *clean* through the wall. ▪ The fish were jumping *clean* out of the water.

⁴clean *noun* [*singular*] *informal* : an act of removing dirt from something ▪ She gave the tub a good *clean*. [=she cleaned the tub thoroughly]

clean–cut /ˈkli:nˈkʌt/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : having a neat appearance that suggests you are someone who does not break rules or cause trouble ▪ a polite, *clean-cut* young man

clean•er /ˈkli:nɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers**

1 [*count*] : a person whose job is to clean something ▪ street/window *cleaners* ▪ They have hired a ***house cleaner***. [=a person whose job is to keep the rooms in a house or apartment clean]

2 [*count*] : a substance used for cleaning things ▪ He recommends using baking soda as a general household *cleaner*.

3 [*count*] : a device or machine used for cleaning things ▪ an air *cleaner* — see also PIPE CLEANER, VACUUM CLEANER

4 *the cleaners* or *the cleaner's* : a shop where clothes are cleaned : DRY CLEANER ▪ I took my suit to *the cleaners*.

take (someone) to the cleaners *informal* : to get all or most of someone's money or possessions usually in a dishonest or unfair way ▪ I heard that his ex-wife really *took him to the cleaners* [=*cleaned him out*] in the divorce.

cleaning *noun* [*noncount*] : the act or process of cleaning something ▪ She needs someone to help her with the *cleaning* [=*housecleaning*] while she is recovering from surgery.

cleaning lady *noun, pl* ~ **ladies** [*count*] : a woman whose job is to clean offices or houses — called also *cleaning woman*

cleaning person *noun, pl* ~ **-sons** [*count*] : a woman or man whose job is to clean offices or houses

clean•li•ness /ˈklɛnlinəs/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 : the state of being clean ▪ The restaurant's kitchen is regularly inspected for *cleanliness*.

2 : the practice of keeping yourself and your surroundings clean ▪ the virtues of *cleanliness* and honesty

clean•ly /ˈklɛnli/ *adv* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : in a clean manner: such as **a** : easily and completely ▪ A sharp knife will cut through the skin of a tomato *cleanly*. **b** : without causing pollution ▪ This fuel burns more *cleanly* than other fuels.

clean room *noun* ~ **rooms** [*count*] : a room that is kept extremely clean so that certain products can be made in it ▪ The microchips are manufactured in a *clean room*.

cleanse /ˈklɛnz/ *verb* **cleans•es; cleansed; cleans•ing** [+ *obj*] : to make (someone or something) clean ▪ The cut should be *cleansed* gently with mild soap and water. ▪ *cleansed* of all impurities — see also ETHNIC CLEANSING

> ***usage*** The verbs *clean* and *cleanse* both mean "to make (something or someone) clean." *Cleanse* usually refers to making the body or part of the body clean. ▪ *cleansing* the skin ▪ The herb is believed to *cleanse* the body of toxins. It can also refer to making a person's mind, soul, reputation, etc., clean. ▪ The ceremony is meant to *cleanse* people of their guilt and sin. ▪ Try to *cleanse* your mind through meditation. *Clean* is more common than *cleanse* and its use is less specific.

cleans•er /ˈklɛnzɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** : a substance (such as a powder or cream) that is used for cleaning something [*count*] a skin *cleanser* [*noncount*] Sprinkle some *cleanser* on the floor and let it sit for a while before you start scrubbing.

clean–shaven *adj, of a man* : having a shaved face : having no beard or mustache ▪ The waiters were *clean-shaven*.

¹clean•up /ˈkli:nˌʌp/ *noun, pl* **-ups** [*count*] : the process of cleaning something ▪ The children helped with the *cleanup* [=helped to clean up] after the meal. — often used before another noun ▪ The *cleanup* costs of the oil spill will be in the millions of dollars. ▪ The company's *cleanup* efforts have been applauded by the town.

²cleanup *adj, always used before a noun* : fourth in the batting order of a baseball team ▪ a *cleanup* hitter

– cleanup *adv* ▪ He's batting *cleanup*.

¹clear /ˈkliɚ/ *adj* **clear•er; -est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : very obvious : not causing or allowing doubt ▪ The show was a *clear* failure. [=it was clearly a failure; there is no doubt that the show was a failure] ▪ There are *clear* differences between the two candidates. ▪ She's the *clear* favorite to win the election. ▪ I'm not completely happy with the plan, but I see no *clear* alternative. ▪ He was the *clear* winner. ▪ It has become *clear* [=*evident*] to me that changes are necessary. ▪ She has made it abundantly/painfully/very *clear* that she does not support us. ▪ It's not *clear* how much longer we'll have to wait. ▪ She made (it) *clear* to me that she was unhappy. [=she told/showed me in a very definite way that she was unhappy] ▪ "Changes will have to be made." "Yes, that's *clear*." ▪ The sign said/read "Keep Out" ***as clear as day/daylight/anything***. [=the sign very clearly said "Keep Out"] — sometimes used in spoken phrases that express anger ▪ I want this work finished by this afternoon. ***Do I make myself clear?*** [=do you understand me?] ▪ The work needs to be finished by this afternoon. ***Is that clear?*** ▪ ***Let's get one thing perfectly clear***: I want this work finished by this afternoon.

2 : easily understood ▪ She's a *clear* writer. [=she writes clearly] ▪ Her writing has a *clear* style. ▪ a *clear* definition/explanation ▪ a *clear* message ▪ The instructions weren't very *clear* about when we were supposed to begin. ▪ (*informal*) The explanation was ***as clear as mud***. [=extremely unclear]

3 a : free from doubt or confusion ▪ I think I have a *clear* understanding of the problem. ▪ Are you *clear* on/about what you need to do? [=do you understand what you need to do?]

C

▪ He has *clear* ideas about what he hopes to accomplish. **b** : able to think in an accurate way without confusion ▪ She's a *clear* thinker. ▪ This job requires someone with a ***clear head*** [=someone who can think clearly] — see also CLEAR-HEADED

4 : easily seen : having small parts and details that can be easily seen and identified ▪ This picture is blurry, but that one is *clear*. ▪ Our TV has a beautifully *clear* picture/image.

5 : easily heard ▪ a very *clear* sound : easily heard and understood ▪ *clear* pronunciation ▪ The teacher has a very *clear* speaking voice.

6 : easily seen through ▪ *clear* [=*transparent*] glass ▪ a *clear* liquid ▪ a glass of cool, *clear* water ▪ *clear* plastic bags ▪ *clear* soup/broth ▪ *clear* air ▪ The water in the lake is ***crystal clear***. = The water in the lake is (as) ***clear as crystal***

7 : not blocked by anything ▪ I had a *clear* view of the accident. [=I was able to see the accident clearly] ▪ The aisles must be kept *clear* during the show. [=no people or things can be in the aisles during the show] ▪ a *clear* path : not covered by anything ▪ You should keep your work area *clear*. — often + *of* ▪ You should keep your work area *clear of* clutter. ▪ Don't try to cross the street until it's *clear of* traffic. [=until there is no traffic on the street] — see also CLEAR OF (below), *the coast is clear* at [1]COAST, *clear sailing* at SAILING

8 *of weather or the sky* : not having any clouds, fog, etc. ▪ It was a beautifully *clear*, sunny day. ▪ a *clear* blue sky ▪ You can see thousands of stars on a *clear* night.

9 a : free of marks or spots ▪ an actress with beautifully/perfectly *clear* healthy skin **b** : having a distinct and bright color ▪ She has *clear* blue eyes. **c** *medical* : free of abnormal signs or symptoms ▪ After treatment, all his tests were *clear*. [=his tests did not show any problems]

10 : free from feelings of guilt or blame — used with *conscience* ▪ The accident wasn't my fault. My *conscience* is *clear*. = I have a *clear conscience*. ✧ If your conscience is *clear*, you do not feel guilty because you do not believe that you have done anything wrong.

11 *finance* — used to describe the amount that remains after costs, taxes, etc., have been paid ▪ We made a *clear* [=*net*] profit of $500.

12 : not having any planned or scheduled activities ▪ Wednesday afternoon is *clear* [=*free*], so let's meet then. ▪ I like to keep my schedule *clear* on Friday afternoons.

(as) clear as a bell : very clear ▪ It was *clear as a bell* that morning—not a cloud in the sky. ▪ The water was *as clear as a bell*. ▪ *Clear as bell*, I heard him say my name. ▪ a sound *as clear as a bell*

clear of : away from (something dangerous, harmful, etc.) ▪ Keep/Stay *clear of* [=*out of*] trouble! ▪ Stand *clear of* the closing doors! ▪ We'll pick up speed once we get *clear of* the heavy traffic. — see also [1]CLEAR 7 (above)

see your way clear see [1]SEE

steer clear (of) see [2]STEER

– **clear·ness** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ I was impressed by the *clearness* [=(more commonly) *clarity*] of his explanation. ▪ the *clearness* of the water

[2]clear *verb* clears; cleared; clear·ing

1 [*no obj*] : to become clear: such as **a** *of weather or the sky* : to change so that there are no clouds, fog, etc. ▪ The sky *cleared* after the rain. ▪ The weather is cloudy now, but it's *clearing* gradually. — see also CLEAR UP (below) **b** *of clouds, fog, smoke, etc.* : to go away ▪ The clouds *cleared* (from the sky) after the rain. ▪ The morning fog gradually *cleared*. ▪ When the smoke *cleared*, we could see that the building had been completely destroyed. **c** *of a liquid* : to change by becoming easier to see through : to become transparent or more transparent ▪ The water *cleared* after the mud had settled. **d** *of the skin* : to become free of marks or spots ▪ My skin *cleared* when I started using the cream. — see also CLEAR UP (below) **e** ✧ When your ***head clears*** or when something ***clears your head***, you become more awake or alert and are able to think in a normal way without confusion. ▪ My *head cleared* after a good night's sleep. = A good night's sleep *cleared my head*. [=I was able to think clearly again after a good night's sleep] **f** ✧ When your ***vision/eyesight clears*** you become able to see things correctly. ▪ When I woke up everything was blurry at first, but then my *vision* gradually *cleared*.

2 a [+ *obj*] : to remove something entirely from an area or place ▪ He used a shovel to *clear* the snow off/from the driveway. = He used a shovel to *clear* the driveway of snow. ▪ They *cleared* timber from/off the land. ▪ She *cleared* everything out of the closet. ▪ I'll *clear* those books out of the/your way. ▪ She *cleared* [=*removed*] the dishes from the table. = She ***cleared the table*** (of dishes). **b** : to cause the people in an area or place to leave [+ *obj*] *clear* a room of unwanted visitors = *clear* unwanted visitors from a room ▪ The alarm *cleared* [=*emptied*] the room (of people). [*no obj*] The room *cleared* quickly when the alarm sounded. [=the people in the room left quickly when the alarm sounded] **c** [+ *obj*] : to leave (an area or place) so that it is empty ▪ The police ordered the crowd to *clear* the area.

3 [+ *obj*] : to make (a path, road, open space, etc.) by removing things that block or cover an area or surface ▪ The guide *cleared* a path for us through the jungle. ▪ I *cleared* a space on the desk for my new computer.

4 [+ *obj*] : to go over, under, or past (something) without touching ▪ The horse *cleared* [=jumped over] the fence easily. ▪ The pole-vaulter *cleared* 15 feet on his first try. ▪ The boat's sail just/narrowly *cleared* [=passed under] the bottom of the bridge.

5 [+ *obj*] : to prove that (someone) is not guilty of a crime ▪ The investigation *cleared* him officially of all the charges against him. ▪ He says he's innocent and he wants an opportunity to ***clear himself***. = He wants an opportunity to ***clear his name*** [=to prove that he is innocent]

6 [+ *obj*] **a** : to get approval for (something) ▪ You should *clear* the article with your boss before trying to get it published. **b** : to give approval for (something) ▪ Her boss *cleared* [=*approved*] the article for publication. **c** : to say that (someone) has official permission to do something ▪ The head of the agency has *cleared* her to see classified information. ▪ The flight/plane/pilot was *cleared* to land. = The flight/plane/pilot was *cleared* for landing. [=the flight/plane/pilot was given official permission/clearance to land] ▪ We were *cleared* (to go) through customs. = We ***cleared customs*** **d** : to be passed or officially approved by (a group) ▪ The bill has finally *cleared* the Senate. [=the Senate has finally passed the bill]

7 [+ *obj*] *finance* **a** : to pay all the money that is owed for (a debt or loan) ▪ *clear* a debt **b** : to gain (an amount of money) after paying all costs, taxes, etc. ▪ After paying our expenses we *cleared* almost 1,000 dollars on the deal. ▪ *clear* a profit **c** ✧ When a ***check clears*** or ***is cleared***, it goes through the process of being reviewed and accepted by a bank, and the money for the check is taken from the bank's account. ▪ Checks can take up to four days to *clear*. = Checks can take up to four days to *be cleared*. ▪ The check failed to *clear*. [=the check bounced]

clear away [*phrasal verb*] ***clear (something) away*** *or* ***clear away (something)*** : to remove (something) from an area or surface ▪ Just give me a moment to *clear away* all these papers, then we can sit down at the table. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ They had a long talk and were able to *clear away* [=*clear up, resolve*] all their misunderstandings.

clear off [*phrasal verb*] **1** ***clear off (something)*** *or* ***clear (something) off (something)*** : to remove things from (an area or surface) ▪ It took her a few minutes to *clear off* the dinner table. ▪ It took her a few minutes to *clear* the dishes *off* the dinner table. ▪ I'll *clear off* my desk so that you can use it. **2** *chiefly Brit, informal* **a** : to go away or run away : to leave quickly ▪ When we heard the night watchman, we *cleared off* as quickly as we could. ▪ I told him to *clear off* [=*get lost*] and leave me alone. **b** ***clear off (a place)*** : to leave (a place) quickly ▪ I ordered the hikers to *clear off* [=*get off*] my land at once.

clear out [*phrasal verb*] **1** : to leave quickly ▪ He *cleared out* without paying his rent. **2** ***clear (something) out*** *or* ***clear out (something)*** : to remove unwanted things from (an area or place) ▪ *clear out* a cluttered closet — see also CLEAROUT

clear the air see [1]AIR

clear the deck/decks see [1]DECK

clear up [*phrasal verb*] **1** : to become clear: such as **a** *of weather or the sky* : to change so that there are no clouds, fog, etc. ▪ The sky *cleared up* after the rain. ▪ It's cloudy now, but it's *clearing up* gradually. **b** *of the skin* : to become free of marks or spots ▪ My skin *cleared up* when I started using the cream. **2** ***clear up*** *or* ***clear (something) up*** *or* ***clear up (something)*** : to go away or cause (something) to go away ▪ My symptoms *cleared up* once I started using the cream. ▪ The cream has *cleared up* my symptoms. **3** ***clear (something) up*** *or* ***clear up (something)*** **a** : to make (something) clear by explaining it ▪ *clear up* a mystery **b** : to cause the end of (something) by talking about it or dealing with it ▪ We need to *clear up* [=*resolve*] these

misunderstandings. ▪ If we try I'm sure we can *clear up* these problems quickly. **4** *Brit* : to make an area clean or tidy ▪ Let's *clear up* [=*clean up*, *tidy up*] before we leave.

clear your throat : to make a noise in your throat for attention or to be able to speak more clearly ▪ He *cleared his throat* and began to speak.

[3]clear *adv*

1 : in a clear manner — used in the phrase ***loud and clear*** ▪ "Can you hear me now?" "*Loud and clear.*" [=I can hear you very clearly]

2 *chiefly US, informal* : all the way : completely or entirely ▪ We drove *clear* across the state. ▪ The ball rolled *clear* across the street.

free and clear see [2]FREE

[4]clear *noun*

in the clear : free from guilt or suspicion ▪ The investigation/jury considered all the charges against him and concluded that he was *in the clear*. [=that he was not guilty] ▪ He's not *in the clear* yet. The police still consider him a suspect.

clear•ance /'klirəns/ *noun, pl* **-anc•es**

1 a : an official decision saying that someone has permission to do something [*noncount*] You'll have to get *clearance* [=*approval*] from management to go ahead with the project. ▪ The documents are only available to people with ***security clearance*** [=special permission given only to people who are approved to know or see secret things] from the government. [*count*] She has a *security clearance* that allows her to see the classified information. **b** : official permission for an aircraft, pilot, etc., to do something [*noncount*] The pilot got *clearance* to land. ▪ That flight has not received *clearance* for landing/takeoff. [*count*] a *clearance* for landing/takeoff

2 : the amount of space between two things [*noncount*] There was only 10 inches of *clearance* between the car and the side of the tunnel. [*count*] The car has a ***road/ground clearance*** of seven inches. [=the bottom of the car is seven inches above the road/ground] ▪ a bridge with a 100-foot *clearance* above the water

3 [*noncount*] : the act or process of removing things (such as trees or old buildings) from an area ▪ the *clearance* of forests for farming ▪ slum *clearance* to make room for new housing

clearance sale *noun, pl* ~ **sales** [*count*] : a sale in which prices are lowered in order to sell things quickly and make room for new items ▪ The store is having/holding a *clearance sale* this weekend.

clear–cut /'kliə'kʌt/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : very obvious and sharp ▪ a *clear-cut* distinction : free from doubt or uncertainty : very definite ▪ a *clear-cut* victory/decision ▪ The difference between their views on this issue is not *clear-cut*.

[2]clear–cut /'kliəˌkʌt/ *noun, pl* **-cuts** [*count*] *US* : an area of land in which all the trees have been cut down ▪ The law limits the size of *clear-cuts*.

[3]clear–cut *verb* **-cuts**; **-cut**; **-cut•ting** [+ *obj*] *US* : to cut down all the trees in (an area) ▪ Ten years ago the lumber company *clear-cut* this hillside.

– **clear–cutting** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ *Clear-cutting* has led to mudslides in many regions.

clear–eyed /'kliəˌaɪd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : having or showing an ability to think clearly ▪ She provided a *clear-eyed* [=*clear-sighted*, *clearheaded*] assessment of the problem.

clear•head•ed /'kliəˌhɛdəd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : having or showing an ability to think clearly ▪ He remains calm and *clearheaded* in tense situations. ▪ a *clearheaded* analysis

– **clear•head•ed•ly** *adv* – **clear•head•ed•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

clear•ing /'klirɪŋ/ *noun, pl* **-ings**

1 [*noncount*] : the act or process of making something clear or of becoming clear ▪ the *clearing* of the table ▪ the *clearing* of wood and brush from part of the forest

2 [*count*] : an open area of land in which there are no trees ▪ We found a *clearing* in the forest.

clearing bank *noun, pl* ~ **banks** [*count*] *Brit* : any bank that uses a clearinghouse

clear•ing•house /'klirɪŋˌhaʊs/ *noun, pl* **-hous•es** [*count*]

1 : a business that banks use to exchange checks and money between them

2 : an organization that collects and gives out information about a specific thing ▪ an online *clearinghouse* for information on museums around the world

clear•ly /'kliəli/ *adv* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : in a clear manner : in a way that is easy to see, hear, or understand ▪ You should try to speak more *clearly*. ▪ She writes very *clearly*. ▪ The mountain was *clearly* visible in the distance.

2 : in a way that is certain : without doubt : OBVIOUSLY ▪ The project was *clearly* a failure. [=the project was a clear failure] ▪ The problem is very *clearly* getting worse. ▪ *Clearly*, a new approach is needed. = A new approach is *clearly* needed. [=it is clear that a new approach is needed] ▪ "A new approach is needed." "*Clearly.*" ▪ "The current method isn't working." "*Clearly* not."

clear•out /'kliəˌaʊt/ *noun, pl* **-outs** [*count*] *Brit* : the act of removing all unwanted material from a place ▪ We gave the house the first thorough *clearout* it's had/gotten for years. — see also *clear out* 2 at [2]CLEAR

clear–sight•ed /'kliəˌsaɪtəd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : having or showing an ability to think clearly ▪ He provided a *clear-sighted* [=*clear-eyed*, *clearheaded*] appraisal of the problem. ▪ a *clear-sighted* commentator

– **clear–sight•ed•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

clear•way /'kliəˌweɪ/ *noun, pl* **-ways** [*count*] *Brit* : a major road on which cars are not usually allowed to stop

cleat /'kli:t/ *noun, pl* **cleats**

1 [*count*] : a metal or wooden object that is attached to something (such as a boat or dock) and around which a rope can be tied

2 a [*count*] : a piece of rubber, wood, or metal that is fastened to the bottom of a shoe or boot to prevent slipping — usually plural ▪ *cleats* on a football shoe **b** ***cleats*** [*plural*] *US* : shoes that have cleats on them ▪ a football player wearing *cleats*

cleav•age /'kli:vɪʤ/ *noun, pl* **-ag•es**

1 [*noncount*] *informal* : the space between a woman's breasts especially when it can be easily seen ▪ The dress is cut low enough to reveal a lot of *cleavage*.

2 : a division between two things or groups [*noncount*] the *cleavage* between the rich and poor [*count*] social *cleavages*

3 [*count*] *technical* : the act of splitting apart ▪ the *cleavages* of an egg as an embryo develops

[1]cleave /'kli:v/ *verb* **cleaves**; **cleaved** /'kli:vd/ *also* **cleft** /'klɛft/ *or* **clove** /'kloʊv/; **cleaved** *also* **cleft** *or* **clo•ven** /'kloʊvən/; **cleav•ing** *formal + literary*

1 a : to split (something) by hitting it with something heavy and sharp [+ *obj*] The ax easily *cleaves* the log. [*no obj*] The wood is old and *cleaves* [=*splits*] easily. **b** : to pass easily and quickly through (something) [+ *obj*] The bow of the ship *cleaved* the water. ▪ The darkness was *cleft* by the lantern's beam. [*no obj*] The ship's bow *cleaved* through the water.

2 [+ *obj*] : to separate (something) into parts ▪ The country was *cleaved* [=*divided*] in two by civil war.

– compare [2]CLEAVE

[2]cleave /'kli:v/ *verb* **cleaves**; **cleaved** /'kli:vd/ *or* **clove** /'kloʊv/; **cleaved**; **cleav•ing**

cleave to [*phrasal verb*] *formal + literary* **1** ***cleave to (someone)*** : to stay very close to (someone) ▪ children *cleaving to* their families **2** ***cleave to (something)*** : to stick closely to (something) — usually used figuratively ▪ He continued to *cleave to* the beliefs of his childhood.

– compare [1]CLEAVE

cleav•er /'kli:vɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a heavy knife with a wide blade used for cutting up large pieces of meat

clef /'klɛf/ *noun, pl* **clefs** [*count*] *music* : a sign that is placed at the beginning of a line of written music to show the pitch of the notes ▪ the treble/bass *clef*

cleft /'klɛft/ *noun, pl* **clefts** [*count*]

1 : a narrow space in the surface of something ▪ The river begins as a trickle of water from a *cleft* in the rock.

2 : a narrow area that looks like a small dent in someone's chin ▪ He has a distinctive *cleft* in his chin.

– **cleft** *adj* ▪ The plant has deeply *cleft* leaves. ▪ a *cleft* chin

cleft lip *noun, pl* ~ **lips** [*count*] *medical* : a split in the upper lip that some people are born with

cleft palate *noun, pl* ~ **-ates** [*count*] *medical* : a split in the roof of the mouth that some people are born with

clem•a•tis /'klɛmətəs/ *noun, pl* **-tis•es** [*count, noncount*] : a climbing plant that has large pink, purple, red, or white flowers

clem•en•cy /'klɛmənsi/ *noun* [*noncount*] : kind or merciful treatment of someone who could be given harsh punishment ▪ The judge ignored the prisoner's pleas for *clemency*. [=*mercy*] ▪ The President has granted *clemency* to several people this month.

clem•ent /'klɛmənt/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* : not too hot or too cold ▪ The country is known for its *clement*

[=(more commonly) *mild*] weather. — compare INCLEMENT

clem•en•tine /ˈklɛmənˌtiːn/ *noun, pl* **-tines** [*count*] : a kind of orange that is small and sweet

clench /ˈklɛnʧ/ *verb* **clench•es; clenched; clench•ing**

1 : to set (something) in a tightly closed position [+ *obj*] He *clenched* his teeth and continued to look straight ahead. • He *clenched* his fists in anger. • She was angry and spoke quietly through *clenched* teeth. [*no obj*] His jaw/fists *clenched* and unclenched as he listened to the speech.

2 [+ *obj*] : to hold (something) tightly • She danced alone, with a rose *clenched* in her teeth. • He was *clenching* a cigarette in his teeth.

clere•sto•ry /ˈkliəˌstori/ *noun, pl* **-ries** [*count*] *technical* : the upper part of a wall that rises above a roof and that has windows

cler•gy /ˈklərʤi/ *noun* [*plural*] : people (such as priests) who are the leaders of a religion and who perform religious services • Local *clergy* have been invited to participate in an interfaith service. • a member of the *clergy* ✧ *Clergy* is used most often to refer to priests and ministers in a Christian church. — compare LAITY

cler•gy•man /ˈklərʤimən/ *noun, pl* **-men** /-mən/ [*count*] : a man who is a member of the clergy especially in a Christian church

cler•gy•per•son /ˈklərʤiˌpərsn̩/ *noun, pl* **-sons** [*count*] : a person who is a member of the clergy especially in a Christian church

cler•gy•wom•an /ˈklərʤiˌwʊmən/ *noun, pl* **-wom•en** /-ˌwɪmən/ [*count*] : a woman who is a member of the clergy especially in a Christian church

cler•ic /ˈklerɪk/ *noun, pl* **-ics** [*count*] : a member of the clergy in any religion

cler•i•cal /ˈklerɪkəl/ *adj*

1 : of or relating to a clerk or office worker • She spent the summer doing *clerical* work for a lawyer. • a member of our *clerical* staff • The mistake was due to a *clerical* error.

2 : of or relating to members of the clergy • *clerical* celibacy • a ***clerical collar*** [=a narrow and stiff white collar that is worn by some clergy]

[1]clerk /ˈklərk, *Brit* ˈklɑːk/ *noun, pl* **clerks** [*count*]

1 : a person whose job is to keep track of records and documents for a business or office • a bank/office *clerk* • a ***law clerk*** [=a person whose job is to assist a judge]

2 : an elected or appointed official whose job is to take care of official papers and business for a court or government • Have the court *clerk* file your request with the judge. • a ***city/town clerk*** [=a person whose job is to record what happens at city or town meetings and to keep special information about the city or town]

3 *US* **a** : a person who works in a store • He works as a *clerk* in a local pet store. • a grocery *clerk* • a sales *clerk* at a women's clothing store **b** : a person who works at the main desk of a hotel assisting the people who are staying there • a ***hotel clerk*** = a ***desk clerk***

[2]clerk *verb* **clerks; clerked; clerk•ing** [*no obj*] *US* : to work as a clerk — usually used of law clerks • After graduating from law school, she *clerked* for a judge for several years.

clev•er /ˈklɛvɚ/ *adj* **clev•er•er; -est** [*also more ~; most ~*]

1 : intelligent and able to learn things quickly • A few *clever* [=*smart, bright*] students have started a business recycling old computers. • Some cats are *clever* enough to figure out how to operate doorknobs.

2 : showing intelligent thinking • a *clever* design/invention • That's the *cleverest* idea I've heard yet! • She found a *clever* hiding place for the letter. — often used in a joking or ironic way to describe a foolish idea, action, etc. • Whose *clever* idea was it to leave the window open?

3 : funny in a way that shows intelligence • I enjoyed the play's *clever* [=*witty*] dialogue.

4 *Brit, informal* : talking in a rude way that is meant to show you are smart • Don't you start getting *clever* [=(*US*) *fresh*] with me! [=don't speak to me in a disrespectful way]

5 : good at doing things with your hands : SKILLFUL • Even as a little boy playing with blocks he was *clever* with his hands. • a *clever* machinist

6 *Brit, informal* — used in various negative expressions to suggest that someone is not feeling well • I'd had a few drinks and wasn't ***feeling very clever***. • For someone who hasn't been ***feeling too clever*** lately, he just played a great round of golf.

too clever by half *chiefly Brit, informal* : clever in a way that is annoying or that causes problems • an arrogant politician who is *too clever by half* • a complex computer program that is *too clever by half*

– clev•er•ly *adv* • a *cleverly* designed gadget • *cleverly* written dialogue **– clev•er•ness** *noun* [*noncount*] • the *cleverness* of the idea • a cat's *cleverness*

clever dick *noun, pl* **~ dicks** [*count*] *Brit, informal + disapproving* : a person who is clever in a way that is annoying — called also *clever clogs*

cli•ché /kliˈʃeɪ, ˈkliːˌʃeɪ/ *noun, pl* **-chés** [*count*]

1 : a phrase or expression that has been used so often that it is no longer original or interesting • a speech filled with *clichés* about "finding your way" and "keeping the faith"

2 : something that is so commonly used in books, stories, etc., that it is no longer effective • The macho cop of Hollywood movies has become a *cliché*.

– cli•ché /kliˈʃeɪd/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] • a *clichéd* phrase • The movie's characters are *clichéd* and uninteresting.

[1]click /ˈklɪk/ *verb* **clicks; clicked; click•ing**

1 a [+ *obj*] : to cause (something) to make a short, sharp sound • He *clicked* his heels together and saluted the officer. *click* your tongue/fingers **b** [*no obj*] : to make a short, sharp sound : to make a click • Her heels *clicked* on the marble floor. • a *clicking* noise/sound • Press the door until you hear the latch *click*. • The last piece of the puzzle *clicked* [=*snapped*] into place.

2 *computers* : to press a button on a mouse or some other device in order to make something happen on a computer [+ *obj*] To open the program, point at the icon and *click* the left mouse button. • *click* the icon [*no obj*] *Click* here to check spelling in the document. — often + *on* • *Click on* the icon to open the program. • I got to the Web site by *clicking on* a link at another site. — see also RIGHT-CLICK

3 [*no obj*] *informal* : to become friends : to like and understand each other • They met at a party and *clicked* [=*hit it off*] right away. • I know him fairly well, but we've never really *clicked*.

4 [*no obj*] *informal* : to get the attention or interest of people — usually + *with* • This is the issue that has really *clicked with* the voters this year.

5 [*no obj*] *informal* — used to describe what happens when you suddenly understand or remember something • I worked on the problem for days, until finally one day something *clicked* and I knew what I had to do.

– click•able /ˈklɪkəbəl/ *adj, computers* • The names in the list are all *clickable*. [=you can click on the names with your mouse to cause something to happen] • a *clickable* image on a Web page

[2]click *noun, pl* **clicks** [*count*]

1 : a short, sharp sound • the *click* of her heels on marble • There was a *click* as the door closed behind him.

2 : the act of selecting something on a computer screen by pressing a button on a mouse or some other device • You can order movie tickets on the Internet with just a few *clicks* of your mouse.

click•er /ˈklɪkɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *chiefly US, informal* : REMOTE CONTROL

cli•ent /ˈklajənt/ *noun, pl* **-ents** [*count*]

1 : a person who pays a professional person or organization for services • a lawyer's *clients* • The accountant is meeting with another *client* right now, but she'll be able to see you later this afternoon.

2 : a customer in a shop or hotel • the spa's wealthy *clients*

3 *computers* : a computer in a network that uses the services provided by a server

cli•en•tele /ˌklajənˈtɛl/ *noun* [*singular*] : the group of people who are regular customers at a particular business • The restaurant generally attracts an older *clientele*. • the boutique's wealthy *clientele*

client state *noun, pl* **~ states** [*count*] : a country that depends on another country for military, economic, or political support

cliff /ˈklɪf/ *noun, pl* **cliffs** [*count*] : a high, steep surface of rock, earth, or ice • Standing at the edge of the *cliff*, we watched the waves crash on the shore far below. • rock climbers scaling steep *cliffs* — see color picture on page C7

cliff–hang•er /ˈklɪfˌhæŋɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a story, contest, or situation that is very exciting because what is going to happen next is not known • The election was a real *cliff-hanger*. No one knew who was going to win until the very end.

cli•mac•tic /klaɪˈmæktɪk/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : most exciting and important : forming a climax • At the *climactic*

moment, the main character of the novel finds herself face to face with the thief. ▪ the movie's *climactic* chase scene

Do not confuse *climactic* with *climatic*.

cli•mate /'klaɪmət/ *noun, pl* **-mates** [*count*]
1 a : a region with particular weather patterns or conditions ▪ living in a cold/dry/mild/hot *climate* ▪ These trees only grow in humid *climates*. **b :** the usual weather conditions in a particular place or region ▪ The country's *climate* is ideal for growing grapes. ▪ the humid *climate* of Malaysia ▪ increasing concerns about ***climate change*** [=changes in the Earth's weather patterns]
2 : the usual or most widespread mood or conditions in a place ▪ A *climate* of fear prevails in the city. ▪ the country's changing economic/political *climate* ▪ The company is trying to develop a positive *climate* for innovation.
– **cli•mat•ic** /klaɪ'mætɪk/ *adj* ▪ The *climatic* conditions in the region make it an ideal place to grow grapes.

Do not confuse *climatic* with *climactic*.

cli•ma•tol•o•gy /ˌklaɪmə'tɑ:lədʒi/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the scientific study of climates
– **cli•ma•tol•o•gist** /ˌklaɪmə'tɑ:lədʒɪst/ *noun, pl* **-gists** [*count*]

cli•max /'klaɪˌmæks/ *noun, pl* **-max•es** [*count*]
1 a : the most exciting and important part of a story, play, or movie that occurs usually at or near the end ▪ The movie's *climax* is a fantastic chase scene. ▪ At the novel's *climax*, the main character finds herself face to face with the thief. **b :** the most interesting and exciting part of something : the high point ▪ the tournament's *climax* ▪ the *climax* of her career ▪ The protest in May was the *climax* of a series of demonstrations in the nation's capital.
2 : the most intense point of sexual pleasure : ORGASM ▪ able/unable to reach *climax*

climax *verb* **-maxes; -maxed; -max•ing**
1 a [*no obj*] : to reach the most exciting or important part in something ▪ The movie *climaxes* with a fantastic chase scene. **b** [+ *obj*] : to occur at the end as the most exciting or important part of (something) ▪ The May protest *climaxed* a series of demonstrations in the nation's capital.
2 [*no obj*] : to have an orgasm ▪ able/unable to *climax*

climb /'klaɪm/ *verb* **climbs; climbed; climb•ing**
1 [+ *obj*] : to move or go up (something) using your feet and often your hands ▪ *climb* a ladder/tree ▪ *climb* the stairs
2 : to go up mountains, cliffs, etc., as a sport [+ *obj*] He dreams of *climbing* Kilimanjaro. ▪ It took them six days to *climb* the mountain. [*no obj*] She has *climbed* seriously for several years now.
3 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [*no obj*] : to move yourself in a way that usually involves going up or down ▪ The actors were *climbing* down from the stage. ▪ He *climbed* over the fence. ▪ The passengers of the sailboat *climbed* aboard. ▪ The pilot *climbed* into the cockpit. ▪ I think she *climbed* in through the window. ▪ He *climbed* out of the car with a box in his hands. ▪ The players *climbed* into their uniforms [=put on their uniforms] and headed for the field.
4 a [*no obj*] : to go higher : to go upward ▪ The plane rapidly *climbed* up above the clouds. ▪ We watched the smoke *climb* [=*rise*] into the night sky. ▪ The trail *climbs* steeply as it nears the summit of the mountain. **b :** to move to a higher position in a ranking or list [*no obj*] The book has *climbed* to number 2 on the bestsellers list. [+ *obj*] Their second album is *climbing* the charts. **c :** to move to a social or professional position that is more respected or powerful [*no obj*] The book describes how the senator *climbed* [=*rose*] to power. [+ *obj*] He was hired right out of business school and started ***climbing the corporate ladder***.
5 [*no obj*] : to increase in amount, value, or level ▪ Divorce rates have *climbed* in recent decades. ▪ The company's earnings have *climbed* 13 percent this year. ▪ The temperature keeps *climbing*.
6 *of plants* : to grow up or over something [+ *obj*] There is ivy *climbing* the walls of the old building. [*no obj*] a ***climbing plant*** [=a plant that attaches itself to something, such as a wall, as it grows up it]

climb down [*phrasal verb*] *chiefly Brit* : to admit that you have made a mistake and change your position or opinion ▪ His statement is seen as an attempt to *climb down* [=*back away*] from the strong denial he made yesterday. — see also CLIMBDOWN

climbing the walls *informal* : feeling very anxious or frustrated because you have a lot of energy but are unable to do something you want to do ▪ Being stuck at home all weekend had me *climbing the walls*.

– **climbing** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ She enjoys mountain *climbing*. ▪ We're going to ***go climbing*** this weekend. — see also ROCK CLIMBING

[2]climb *noun, pl* **climbs** [*count*] : the act of climbing: such as **a :** the act or process of climbing a mountain, hill, etc. ▪ It's a 20-minute *climb* to the ridge from here. ▪ He's planning to attempt one of the most difficult *climbs* in South America this summer. **b :** the act or process of moving upward ▪ The plane made a steep *climb* [=*ascent*] to 30,000 feet. **c :** the act or process of going to a higher level or position ▪ The book chronicles her *climb* [=*ascent*] to political power. ▪ The book made a rapid *climb* to the top of the best-seller list.

climb•down /'klaɪmˌdaʊn/ *noun* [*singular*] *Brit* : an act of admitting that you have made a mistake and are changing your position or opinion ▪ His statement is seen as a *climbdown* from the strong denial he made yesterday. — see also *climb down* at [1]CLIMB

climb•er /'klaɪmɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]
1 : someone who climbs mountains, cliffs, etc., as a sport ▪ a mountain *climber*
2 : an animal that climbs a lot or very well ▪ Chimpanzees are excellent *climbers* and spend a lot of their lives in trees.
3 : a plant that grows up walls, poles, etc., ▪ *climbers* like clematis and ivy
– see also SOCIAL CLIMBER

climbing frame *noun, pl* ~ **frames** [*count*] *Brit* : PLAY STRUCTURE

climbing wall *noun, pl* ~ **walls** [*count*] : a wall that is specially designed to be climbed and that is used to develop the skills needed for climbing mountains and cliffs

clime /'klaɪm/ *noun, pl* **climes** [*count*] *literary* : a climate : a place with a particular climate — usually plural ▪ They traveled south in search of warmer *climes*.

[1]clinch /'klɪnʧ/ *verb* **clinch•es; clinched; clinch•ing**
1 [+ *obj*] **a :** to make (something) certain or final ▪ His home run *clinched* the victory. ▪ The new evidence *clinches* the case. ▪ Her work on the project should *clinch* her a promotion. ▪ The photos of the city have *clinched* it for me. I have to visit Prague. **b :** to make certain the winning of (something) ▪ If they win tonight's game they'll *clinch* the pennant.
2 [*no obj*] : to hold each other closely during a fight ▪ The boxers *clinched*.

[2]clinch *noun, pl* **clinches** [*count*] : a position in which two people (such as two boxers) are holding each other very closely ▪ The referee told the boxers to break their *clinch*. ▪ The movie ended with the hero and heroine locked in a passionate *clinch*. [=(more commonly) *embrace*]

clinch•er /'klɪnʧɚ/ *noun* [*singular*] *informal* : a fact or statement that makes something certain or final ▪ This delicious soup is bound to impress guests. And here's the *clincher*: it's very easy to make. [=the fact that the soup is easy to make makes it especially appealing]

cling /'klɪŋ/ *verb* **clings; clung** /'klʌŋ/; **cling•ing** [*no obj*]
1 : to hold onto something or someone very tightly ▪ The children *clung* together under the little umbrella waiting for the storm to pass. — usually + *to* or *onto* ▪ The little cat *clung to* the narrow branch. ▪ The boy *clung onto* his mother's hand as they walked through the crowd. ▪ The little boy *clung to* his mother when it was time for her to leave.
2 *often disapproving* : to stay very close to someone for emotional support, protection, etc. ▪ a *clinging* child — usually + *to* ▪ parents who *cling to* their children instead of allowing them to be independent ▪ He *clung to* his friends for support.
3 : to stick to something or someone — usually + *to* ▪ The shirt *clung to* his wet shoulders.
4 : to continue to believe in or depend on something — + *to* ▪ He is still *clinging to* the idea that his marriage can be saved.
5 : to try very hard to keep something that you are in danger of losing — usually + *to* ▪ an aging leader *clinging to* power
– **clingy** /'klɪŋi/ *adj* **cling•i•er; -est** ▪ a *clingy* dress ▪ He was a *clingy* child.

cling film *noun* [*noncount*] *Brit* : PLASTIC WRAP

clin•ic /'klɪnɪk/ *noun, pl* **-ics** [*count*]
1 : a place where people get medical help ▪ The *clinic* is offering free screening for diabetes. ▪ a family-planning *clinic* ▪ He checked into a drug rehab *clinic*.
2 : an event at which a doctor is available to talk to people about a particular health matter ▪ The hospital is holding/having a pain *clinic* on Tuesday night for anyone interested in learning how to deal with chronic pain.

C

3 : a meeting during which a group of people learn about a particular thing or work on a particular problem ▪ a reading *clinic* ▪ A local club is giving a fishing *clinic* on Saturday.

4 : a place where professional services are offered to people for a lower cost than is usual ▪ A legal *clinic* in the city provides poor families with advice on legal matters.

put on a clinic *US, informal* : to perform or play extremely well ▪ The quarterback really *put on a clinic* in the second half, throwing four touchdown passes.

clin•i•cal /ˈklɪnɪkəl/ *adj*

1 *always used before a noun* : relating to or based on work done with real patients : of or relating to the medical treatment that is given to patients in hospitals, clinics, etc. ▪ Both experimental and *clinical* evidence show that the treatment is effective. ▪ She enjoys her *clinical* practice but is looking forward to working in a laboratory. ▪ Three hundred patients were involved in the ***clinical study***. ▪ a drug that is undergoing ***clinical trials*** [=scientific tests to see the effect of a drug by using it with real patients] ▪ He's a ***clinical psychologist*** [=a psychologist who works with patients] and professor of psychology at the university.

2 : requiring treatment as a medical problem ▪ ***Clinical depression*** [=depression that is a medical condition] is more serious than the occasional bouts of sadness that most people deal with.

3 *always used before a noun* : of or relating to a place where medical treatment is given : of or relating to a clinic ▪ *clinical* offices ▪ She has been the *clinical* director [=the director of a clinic] here for five years.

4 [*more ~; most ~*] : not showing emotion or excitement ▪ Her voice was calm, almost *clinical* [=*cold*], as she told us what happened.

5 : very exact or skillful ▪ He did the work with *clinical* precision.

– **clin•i•cal•ly** /ˈklɪnɪkli/ *adv* ▪ *clinically* depressed patients

cli•ni•cian /klɪˈnɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-cians** [*count*] : a person (such as a doctor or nurse) who works directly with patients rather than in a laboratory or as a researcher

[1]clink /ˈklɪŋk/ *verb* **clinks**; **clinked**; **clink•ing** : to make or cause (something) to make a short, sharp sound that is made when glass or metal objects hit each other [*no obj*] The bottles *clinked* together. [+ *obj*] When she'd completed the toast, they *clinked* glasses.

– **clinking** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ I could hear the *clinking* of glasses coming from the dining room.

[2]clink *noun, pl* **clinks** [*count*] : a short, sharp sound made when glass or metal objects hit each other ▪ the *clink* of glasses — compare [3]CLINK

[3]clink *noun*

the clink *slang* : a jail or prison ▪ I spent a night in *the clink*. [=in jail]

– compare [2]CLINK

clink•er /ˈklɪŋkɚ/ *noun, pl* **-kers** [*count*] *US, informal*

1 : something that fails completely ▪ All his recent movies have been real *clinkers*. [=*flops*]

2 : a wrong note in a musical performance ▪ Somebody in the orchestra hit a *clinker*.

[1]clip /ˈklɪp/ *noun, pl* **clips** [*count*]

1 : a usually small piece of metal or plastic that holds things together or keeps things in place ▪ hair *clips* ▪ a tie *clip* [=a piece of metal that holds together the ends of a necktie] ▪ He uses a money *clip* instead of a wallet. — see also PAPER CLIP

2 : a container that is filled with bullets and that is placed inside a gun so that the bullets can be fired ▪ an ammunition *clip*

– compare [3]CLIP

[2]clip *verb* **clips**; **clipped**; **clip•ping**

1 [+ *obj*] : to hold (two or more things) together with a clip ▪ *clip* the papers together

2 : to attach (something) *to* or *onto* something else with a clip [+ *obj*] He *clipped* the keys *to* her belt. ▪ *Clip* this microphone *onto* your shirt. [*no obj*] The radio *clips to/onto* a belt.

– compare [4]CLIP

[3]clip *noun, pl* **clips**

1 [*count*] : a short section of a movie, TV show, etc. ▪ Here's a *clip* from his new movie. ▪ video/audio *clips*

2 [*count*] *US* : an article that has been cut out of a newspaper or magazine : CLIPPING ▪ a pile of press *clips* about her son

3 [*singular*] : the speed at which something happens ▪ The market is growing at a *clip* [=*rate*] of five percent a year. ✧ If something moves or happens ***at a fast/rapid/steady/good clip***, it moves or happens quickly. ▪ The train was moving *at a good clip*.

4 [*singular*] *US, informal* : one time or instance ▪ He makes up to $1,000 a *clip*. — usually used in the phrase ***at a clip*** ▪ She can bicycle 30 miles *at a clip*.

5 [*singular*] *Brit, informal* : a quick and painful hit with the hand ▪ She gave him ***a clip round the ear***. [=she hit him on the ear]

– compare [1]CLIP

[4]clip *verb* **clips**; **clipped**; **clipping** [+ *obj*]

1 : to make (something) shorter or neater by cutting off small pieces ▪ She's outside *clipping* [=*trimming*] the hedges/bushes. ▪ *clipping* the tips of their cigars ▪ closely *clipped* grass ▪ The bird's wings have been *clipped* so that it can't fly away. — see also *clip someone's wings* at [1]WING

2 : to cut (an article, a picture, etc.) out of a newspaper or magazine ▪ She *clipped* (out) several recipes from the magazine. ▪ *clipping* coupons

3 : to hit the side of (something) while going past it ▪ The car skidded off the road and *clipped* a tree.

– compare [2]CLIP

clip•board /ˈklɪpˌboɚd/ *noun, pl* **-boards** [*count*]

1 : a small board that has a clip at the top for holding papers

2 : a feature of a computer program that holds a copy of some data (such as words or a picture) and allows the user to move the data to another document or program ▪ Copy the sentence to the *clipboard* and paste it in a new document.

clip–clop /ˈklɪpˌklɑːp/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the sound made by a horse that is walking on a hard surface ▪ the slow *clip-clop* of the horses as the parade passed by

– **clip–clop** *verb* **-clops**; **-clopped**; **-clop•ping** [*no obj*] ▪ The horse-drawn carriage *clip-clopped* down the street.

clip joint *noun, pl* **~ joints** [*count*] *slang* : a business (such as a bar or nightclub) that makes its customers pay too much money

clip–on /ˈklɪpˌɑːn/ *adj, always used before a noun* : attached to something with a clip ▪ a *clip-on* necktie ▪ *clip-on* earrings

clipped *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] — used to describe speech that is fast, that uses short sounds and few words, and that is often unfriendly or rude ▪ She answered their questions in a *clipped* voice/tone. ▪ the police officer's *clipped* speech

clip•per /ˈklɪpɚ/ *noun, pl* **-pers** [*count*]

1 : a device used for cutting something ▪ a hedge *clipper* — usually plural ▪ fingernail *clippers* ▪ wire *clippers* ▪ hedge *clippers* ▪ She cut his hair with electric *clippers*.

2 : a person who clips something ▪ a coupon *clipper*

3 : a very fast type of sailing ship that was used especially in the 1800s

clip•ping /ˈklɪpɪŋ/ *noun, pl* **-pings** [*count*]

1 *chiefly US* : something (such as an article or a picture) that has been cut out of a newspaper or magazine ▪ a newspaper/magazine *clipping* ▪ an old news *clipping* — called also *press clipping*, (*Brit*) *cutting*

2 : a small piece that has been cut off of something ▪ a fingernail *clipping* — usually plural ▪ grass *clippings*

clique /ˈklɪk, ˈkliːk/ *noun, pl* **cliques** [*count*] *disapproving* : a small group of people who spend time together and who are not friendly to other people ▪ high school *cliques*

– **cliqu•ish** /ˈklɪkɪʃ, ˈkliːkɪʃ/ *also* **cliqu•ey** /ˈklɪki, ˈkliːki/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] ▪ The students in the high school are very *cliquish* and unfriendly. ▪ *cliquish* attitudes

cli•to•ris /ˈklɪtərəs/ *noun, pl* **-ri•ses** [*count*] : a female sexual organ that is small, sensitive, and located on the outside of the body in front of the opening of the vagina

– **cli•to•ral** /ˈklɪtərəl/ *adj*

Cllr *abbr, Brit* councillor

[1]cloak /ˈkloʊk/ *noun, pl* **cloaks**

1 [*count*] : a piece of clothing that is used as a coat, that has no sleeves, and that is worn over the shoulders and attached at the neck

2 [*singular*] : a thing that hides or covers someone or something ▪ The soldiers began their attack under (the) *cloak* of darkness. ▪ Their plans were shrouded in a *cloak* of secrecy.

[2]cloak *verb* **cloaks**; **cloaked**; **cloak•ing** [+ *obj*] *literary*

1 : to cover (someone or something) — usually used as *(be) cloaked* ▪ a field *cloaked* in snow

2 : to hide or disguise (something) — usually used as *(be) cloaked* ▪ His caring personality *was cloaked* [=*hidden, concealed*] by shyness. — usually + *in* ▪ The plans *were cloaked* [=*shrouded*] *in* secrecy. ▪ a company *cloaked in* mystery

– **cloaked** *adj* ▪ A *cloaked* figure [=a person wearing a cloak] entered the room.

cloak–and–dagger *adj* : relating to or showing actions or behavior in which people or governments try to protect their important secrets or try to learn the secrets of others ▪ a *cloak-and-dagger* novel ▪ *cloak-and-dagger* [=*undercover, secret*] operations

cloak•room /'klouk,ru:m/ *noun, pl* **-rooms** [*count*]
1 *Brit* : a room in a public building that has toilets and sinks ▪ The ladies' *cloakroom* [=(*US*) *bathroom, restroom*] is down the hall.
2 *chiefly Brit* : CHECKROOM ▪ We left our things in the *cloakroom*.

[1]clob•ber /'klɑ:bɚ/ *verb* **-bers; -bered; -ber•ing** [+ *obj*] *informal*
1 : to hit (someone) very hard ▪ Some guy was *clobbering* [=*beating*] him in the parking lot. ▪ If you say anything I'll *clobber* you.
2 : to defeat (a person or team) very easily in a competition ▪ We *clobbered* them in our last game. ▪ She was/got *clobbered* in the election. [=she lost by a large number of votes]
3 : to have a very bad effect on (someone or something) ▪ Businesses are being/getting *clobbered* by the bad economy.

[2]clobber *noun* [*noncount*] *Brit, informal* : someone's clothes, supplies, or equipment ▪ Just dump your *clobber* anywhere.

[1]clock /'klɑ:k/ *noun, pl* **clocks**
1 [*count*] : a device that shows what time it is and that is usually placed in a room or attached to a wall ▪ She looked/glanced at the *clock* on the wall. It was now 2:30. ▪ the hands/face of the *clock* ▪ a digital *clock* — often used before another noun ▪ a *clock* tower [=a tower with a clock on at least one of its sides] ▪ a *clock* face — compare WATCH; see also ALARM CLOCK, ATOMIC CLOCK, BIOLOGICAL CLOCK, BODY CLOCK, CUCKOO CLOCK, GRANDFATHER CLOCK
2 ***the clock*** : a clock that is used in sports and that shows how much time remains for a particular part of a game ▪ They were winning by 2 points with 10 seconds (left) on *the clock*. ▪ They stopped *the* (game) *clock* with eight seconds remaining. ✧ In U.S. English, to ***eat up the clock*** or ***run out the clock*** or ***kill the clock*** is to keep control of the ball or puck near the end of a game so that your opponent will not have a chance to score. ▪ We kept moving the ball to try to *eat up the clock*. ▪ If we can *run out the clock*, we can keep our lead and win. — see also SHOT CLOCK
3 ***the clock*** : TIME CLOCK ▪ I punched *the clock* at 8:45 and started working right away.
4 ***the clock*** *chiefly Brit, informal* : a device that shows how far a vehicle has traveled : ODOMETER ▪ a car with 100,000 miles
on the clock ***against the clock*** **1** : in order to do or finish something before a particular time ▪ On our last project, we were working/racing *against the clock*. ▪ It was a race *against the clock* to finish the job on time. **2** ✧ If a race is *against the clock*, the time of each racer is measured and the racer with the fastest time wins. ▪ One by one the skiers sped downhill, racing *against the clock*.
around the clock *also* ***round the clock*** : throughout the entire day and night : every hour of the day ▪ Our stores are now open *around the clock*. [=our stores are open 24 hours a day] ▪ Reporters worked *around the clock* to cover the story.
beat the clock : to do or finish something quickly before a particular time ▪ In a desperate attempt to *beat the clock*, I raced to mail my tax return before midnight.
put/turn back the clock *also* ***put/turn the clock back*** : to return to a condition that existed in the past ▪ This new decision has effectively *turned back the clock* on 20 years of progress. ▪ I wish that we could *turn back the clock* and start all over again.

[2]clock *verb* **clocks; clocked; clock•ing**
1 [+ *obj*] **a** : to measure the amount of time it takes for (a person) to do something or for (something) to be completed — usually + *at* ▪ She *clocked* [=*timed*] her first mile *at* 5 minutes and 20 seconds. ▪ He *clocked* me *at* 30 seconds. **b** : to finish a race in (an amount of time) ▪ He *clocked* 3 hours and 15 minutes in his last marathon.
2 a [+ *obj*] : to measure or show (the speed of something) with a measuring device ▪ His fastest pitch was *clocked* at 91 miles per hour. ▪ The cop said she *clocked* me going 95 miles per hour. **b** [*no obj*] : to have a particular speed or to continue for a particular amount of time — + *in* ▪ The movie *clocked in* at just under three hours. [=the movie was almost three hours long]
3 [+ *obj*] *informal* : to hit (someone or something) very hard ▪ I was so angry I wanted to *clock* him.
4 [+ *obj*] *Brit, informal* : to look at or notice (someone or something) ▪ Just *clock* [=*get a load of*] that new motor of his.
clock in/on [*phrasal verb*] *chiefly Brit* : to record on a special card the time that you start working ▪ What time did you *clock on*? ▪ I *clocked in* [=(*US*) *punched in*] 10 minutes late.
clock off/out [*phrasal verb*] *chiefly Brit* : to record on a special card the time that you stop working ▪ What time did you *clock off* yesterday? ▪ I *clocked off* [=(*US*) *punched out*] 10 minutes late.
clock up [*phrasal verb*] ***clock up (something)*** *chiefly Brit* : to gain or reach (a particular number or amount) ▪ Our company *clocked up* a record number of sales this year.

clock radio *noun, pl* ~ **-dios** [*count*] : a radio that includes a clock and that can be set so that the radio turns on at a particular time

clock•wise /'klɑ:k,waɪz/ *adv* : in the direction that the hands of a clock move when you look at it from the front ▪ Turn the screw *clockwise* to tighten it. — opposite COUNTERCLOCKWISE
– clockwise *adj* ▪ in a *clockwise* direction

clock•work /'klɑ:k,wɚk/ *noun* [*noncount*]
1 : the system of moving wheels inside something (such as a clock or an old-fashioned toy) that makes its parts move ▪ the *clockwork* inside a mechanical toy soldier
2 — used to describe something that happens or works in a very regular and exact way ▪ Every morning, ***like clockwork***, customers line up outside the front door of the bakery. ▪ Their wedding went (off) *like clockwork*. [=their wedding went very smoothly; everything in the wedding happened the way they planned] ▪ The birds return each year, (as) ***regular as clockwork***. — often used before another noun ▪ The work was done with *clockwork* precision. ▪ They return with *clockwork* regularity. ▪ a *clockwork* operation

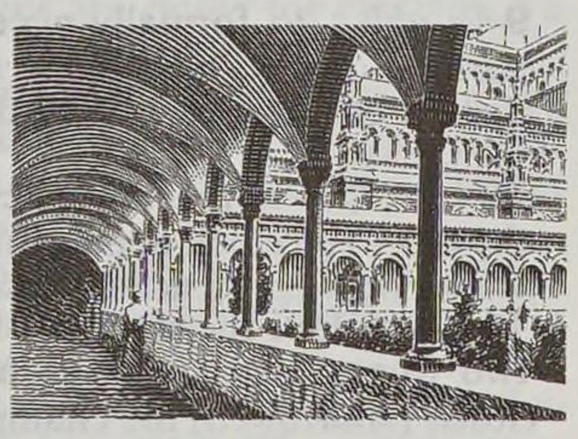
clod /'klɑ:d/ *noun, pl* **clods** [*count*]
1 : a lump of dirt or clay
2 *informal* : a person who is stupid and dull ▪ Her husband's such a *clod*.
– clod•dish /'klɑ:dɪʃ/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ his typically *cloddish* behavior

clod•hop•per /'klɑ:d,hɑ:pɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *informal*
1 : a person from the country who is clumsy or who has bad manners
2 : a large heavy shoe or boot — usually plural ▪ a pair of old *clodhoppers*

[1]clog /'klɑ:g/ *verb* **clogs; clogged; clog•ging** : to slowly form a block in (something, such as a pipe or street) so that things cannot move through quickly or easily [+ *obj*] The sink was *clogged* by/with dirt and grease. ▪ Traffic starts *clogging* (up) the streets at around five o'clock. ▪ Something's *clogged* (up) the pipes. [*no obj*] The drain *clogs* easily because the opening is so small. ▪ His arteries *clogged* (up) again five years after his surgery. — often used figuratively ▪ There are too many legal cases *clogging* up the court system.
– clogged *adj* ▪ a *clogged* pipe ▪ *clogged* pores ▪ *clogged* arteries ▪ *clogged* blood vessels

[2]clog *noun, pl* **clogs** [*count*]
1 : a shoe or sandal that has a thick usually wooden sole ▪ a pair of *clogs* — see picture at SHOE
2 : something that blocks or clogs a pipe ▪ There's a *clog* in the kitchen sink. ▪ a liquid chemical that gets rid of *clogs*

clois•ter /'klɔɪstɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ters** [*count*]
1 : a place where monks or nuns live : a monastery or convent
2 : a covered path or hall with arches that is on the side of a building (such as a monastery or church) and that has one open side usually facing a courtyard


cloister

clois•tered /'klɔɪstɚd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : separated from the rest of the world ▪ She leads a private, *cloistered* life in the country. : protected from the problems and concerns of everyday life ▪ He spent most of his adult life *cloistered* in universities.

clomp /'klɑ:mp/ *verb* **clomps; clomped; clomp•ing** [*no obj*] *chiefly US* : to walk with loud, heavy steps ▪ He was *clomping* [=*clumping*] around in his big rubber boots.

C

[1]clone /ˈkloʊn/ *noun, pl* **clones** [*count*]
1 *biology* : a plant or animal that is grown from one cell of its parent and that has exactly the same genes as its parent ▪ the *clone* of an adult female sheep
2 : a product (such as a computer) that is a copy of another product produced by a well-known company ▪ a company that manufactures computer *clones* = a *clone*-maker
3 : a person or thing that appears to be an exact copy of another person or thing ▪ I am not a *clone* [=*duplicate*] of my father. He and I are very different people.

[2]clone *verb* **clones**; **cloned**; **clon·ing** : to make an exact copy of (a person, animal, or plant) : to make a clone of (something or someone) [+ *obj*] Do you think scientists should *clone* humans? [*no obj*] a plant produced by *cloning*

[1]close /ˈkloʊz/ *verb* **clos·es**; **closed**; **clos·ing** ✧ The opposite of *close* is *open* in every sense except senses 3b and 9.
1 : to move (a door, window, etc.) so that things cannot pass through an opening : SHUT [+ *obj*] Please *close* the door. ▪ We had better *close* the windows; it looks like it's going to rain. ▪ I forgot to *close* the gate. ▪ She was having trouble *closing* the drawer. ▪ *Close* the lid on the box tightly. [*no obj*] The door opened and *closed* so quietly that I didn't notice he had come in the room. ▪ The box's lid *closed* with a bang.
2 [+ *obj*] : to cover the opening of (something) : SHUT ▪ Remember to *close* the box of cereal when you're done.
3 a : to bring together the parts or edges of (something open) [+ *obj*] Please *close* your books and put them under your desks. ▪ *Close* your mouth. ▪ *Close* your eyes and go to sleep. ▪ I *closed* my fists and got ready to fight. ▪ *close* an umbrella [*no obj*] This suitcase just won't *close*! ▪ Her eyes *closed*, and she drifted off to sleep. ▪ My throat *closed* and I felt like I couldn't breathe. **b** : to bring together the edges of (a wound) so that it can heal [+ *obj*] It took 10 stitches to *close* the wound on his head. [*no obj*] The cut eventually *closed* [=*closed up*, *healed over*] on its own.
4 : to not allow (a road, park, etc.) to be used for a period of time [+ *obj*] The city *closed* [=*closed off*] the beach during the storm. ▪ They *closed* the bridge to traffic. [=they did not allow cars to use the bridge] [*no obj*] The park *closes* every evening at dusk.
5 a : to stop the services or activities of (a business, school, etc.) for a period of time [+ *obj*] They *closed* the school today because of the storm. ▪ We'll be *closing* the theater while we make the necessary repairs. [*no obj*] The store *closes* for lunch from 1 to 2 p.m. ▪ The airport *closed* for two hours yesterday due to icy conditions. ▪ The bank *closes* at noon on Saturdays. ▪ What time does the library *close*? **b** : to stop the services or activities of (a business, school, etc.) permanently [+ *obj*] They *closed* [=*closed down*, *shut down*] the school/factory/office last year. [*no obj*] The restaurant has *closed* for lack of business. ▪ The play *closed* [=it stopped being performed] after 112 performances.
6 : to end (something) [+ *obj*] The minister *closed* [=*concluded*] the services with a short prayer. ▪ She *closed* the meeting by thanking everyone for their help. ▪ Investigators *closed* the case after concluding that his death was an accident. [*no obj*] The services *closed* [=*concluded*] with a short prayer. ▪ I'd like to *close* by thanking you all for your help.
7 [+ *obj*] : to stop keeping money in (an account at a bank) ▪ I *closed* [=*closed out*] my savings account and opened up a new one at another bank.
8 [+ *obj*] : to end the use of (a file, document, or program) on a computer ▪ Remember to save the file before *closing* it.
9 [+ *obj*] : to formally accept (an agreement) ▪ They just *closed* a deal to take ownership of a new restaurant. ▪ the custom of *closing* a deal by shaking hands — see also CLOSE ON (below)
10 [*no obj*] : to reach a specified price or level at the end of the day ▪ The stock opened at $19 a share and *closed* at $22. ▪ Stocks opened weak but *closed* strong.
11 : to reduce the amount of distance or difference between two things, people, or groups [+ *obj*] The challenger has *closed* [=*narrowed*] the champion's lead to within two points. ▪ *closing* the distance to the lead runner ▪ These changes will help ***close the gap*** between the richest and the poorest countries. [*no obj*] She has *closed* to within two points of the champion.

close down [*phrasal verb*] **1 a** : to permanently stop operating : CLOSE ▪ The factory *closed down* in the 1980s. **b** *Brit* : to stop broadcasting from a radio or television station for the day ▪ We're *closing down* for the night: tune in again tomorrow morning! **2** ***close down (something) or close (something) down*** : to permanently stop the services or activities of (a business, school, etc.) ▪ They *closed down* [=*closed*, *shut down*] the school due to financial problems. — see also CLOSEDOWN

close in [*phrasal verb*] : to come or move nearer or closer ▪ The storm is *closing in* [=*approaching*] fast. ▪ Enemy troops are *closing in* all around us! ▪ The lions *closed in* for the kill. ▪ I felt that the world was *closing in* around me. ▪ The air became colder as night/darkness *closed in*. [=as darkness fell, as the night became dark] — often + *on* ▪ The fire was *closing in on* their neighborhood. ▪ The camera slowly *closed in on* the actor's face. ▪ Police were *closing in on* the two men. ▪ Researchers are *closing in on* [=they are close to finding] a cure for the disease. ▪ She's *closing in on* 40. [=she is almost 40 years old]

close off [*phrasal verb*] ***close off (something) or close (something) off*** : to not allow (something) to be used for a period of time : CLOSE ▪ The city *closed off* the beach to tourists. ▪ *closing off* a road with barriers ▪ Half of the museum was *closed off* while they made the changes. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ He *closes* himself *off* to new experiences. [=he does not allow himself to have new experiences]

close on [*phrasal verb*] ***close on (something)*** *US* : to formally and legally agree to and complete (an important financial arrangement, such as the purchase of a house) ▪ We're going to *close on* our house next Friday. ▪ They *closed on* the deal. — see also [1]CLOSE 9 (above)

close out [*phrasal verb*] ***close out (something)*** **1** *US* : to quickly sell (all of a particular type of product in a store) at a lower price ▪ We're *closing out* our entire stock of children's clothing! Come and pick up some bargains! — see also CLOSEOUT **2** : to stop keeping money in (a bank account) ▪ She withdrew all her money and *closed out* [=*closed*] her account. **3** : to end (something) in a specified way ▪ The team *closed out* the series with a 2–1 win over New York. ▪ She *closed out* her remarkable career with a final grand performance.

close ranks see [1]RANK

close the door on see DOOR

close up [*phrasal verb*] **1 a** : to close and lock all the doors of a building usually for a short period of time ▪ Businesses *closed up* [=*closed*] early so employees could attend the parade. ▪ We've *closed up* for the day. Please come back tomorrow. **b** ***close (something) up or close up (something)*** : to close and lock all the doors of (a house, store, etc.) ▪ They *closed up* the house and left town. ✧ To ***close up shop*** is to go out of business forever or stop performing all services or activities for a period of time. ▪ Rather than *closing up shop* entirely, the company laid off half of its workers. ▪ The restaurant has already *closed up shop* for the winter. **2** : to move closer together ▪ The troops *closed up* and prepared to begin the attack. **3** *of a wound* : to become completely healed ▪ The cut eventually *closed up* [=*closed*] on its own. **4** : to become quiet : to stop talking about your thoughts or emotions with other people ▪ She *closes up* when people ask her about her parents. **5** ***close (something) up or close up (something)*** : to bring (people or things) closer together ▪ *Close up* the spaces between the lines.

close your doors see DOOR

close your eyes to see [1]EYE

[2]close /ˈkloʊs/ *adj* **clos·er**; **-est**
1 : near in space : not far away or distant ▪ We're not there yet, but we're getting *close*. ▪ We stood *close* together to stay warm. — often + *to* ▪ New York is much *closer to* Chicago than it is *to* Los Angeles. ▪ Don't get too *close to* the fire. ▪ Stay *close to* me, children! ▪ Let's try to sit *close to* the front. ▪ The trees were planted ***in close proximity to*** [=*near*] the building. ▪ The gun is made for shooting ***at close range*** [=from a short distance] ▪ We were able to observe their behavior ***at close quarters*** [=from a short distance] ▪ Over 200 people lived ***in close quarters*** [=very close together] on the ship. — see also *close encounter* at [2]ENCOUNTER
2 : near in time ▪ Christmas is getting *closer* and will soon be here. ▪ She had her two children very *close* together. [=her second child was born soon after her first] — often + *to* ▪ You shouldn't snack so *close to* dinnertime. ▪ It's getting *close to* midnight. ▪ My birthday is *close to* Thanksgiving.
3 *not used before a noun* : very similar : almost the same ▪ Their daughters are *close* in age. ▪ *close* in size and shape — often + *to* ▪ a sound *close to* the sound of breaking glass ▪ He bears a ***close resemblance to*** his father. [=he looks very much like his father]
4 *not used before a noun* : almost correct ▪ "I'd guess that

you're 29 years old." "You're *close*. I'm 30." ▪ It's not exactly right, but it's *close*. ▪ You're way off! Not even *close*! [=you are completely wrong] ✧ The informal phrase ***close but no cigar*** is used to say that a guess was almost correct or that an effort was almost good enough. ▪ "Was I right?" "*Close, but no cigar*." ▪ We were *close but no cigar*.

5 a — used to say that someone or something has almost reached a particular condition; + *to* ▪ He was *close to* death when they brought him to the hospital. ▪ These rare birds are *close to* extinction. ▪ His reply left her *close to* tears. [=his reply almost made her cry] **b :** almost *doing* something — + *to* ▪ She was *close to* crying. ▪ The bridge came dangerously *close to* collapsing. [=the bridge almost collapsed]

6 — used to say that something bad almost happened ▪ That was *close*! We almost missed our plane. ▪ That was a ***close one***. [=*close call, close shave*] — see also *too close for comfort* at [1]COMFORT

7 — used to describe the people you are most directly related to (such as your parents, children, sisters, brothers, etc.) ▪ She had no *close* relatives nearby. ▪ We're only inviting *close* family members to our wedding. — compare DISTANT

8 — used to describe people who know each other very well and care about each other very much ▪ They were *close* friends in high school, but they've since grown apart. ▪ My sister and I have always been very *close*. ▪ We have a very *close* relationship. — often + *to* ▪ We've always felt very *close to* each other. ▪ He's very *close to* his grandparents.

9 : connected in a direct way ▪ Sources *close* to the president say that he is willing to make a deal. ▪ She stays in *close* touch/contact with her friends back home. ▪ Authorities claim he has *close* ties to terrorist organizations. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ This idea lies *close* to the heart of Democracy. [=it has an important connection to Democracy] ▪ Animal rights is a cause that is ***close to my heart***. [=I care very much about animal rights]

10 : very careful, complete, or precise ▪ It's important to pay *close* attention to the details. ▪ Take a *closer* look at the evidence. ▪ On *closer* examination, it appeared that something was missing. ▪ We worked under the *close* supervision of a trained professional. ▪ a *close* study of the Greek classics ▪ a *close* reading of a text ▪ Keep (a) ***close watch*** on the baby. = Keep a ***close eye*** on the baby. [=watch the baby closely]

11 — used to describe a race, contest, game, etc., in which one person, group, or team defeats the other or is leading the other by only a small amount ▪ That was a *close* game. We only beat them by one point. ▪ It was the *closest* election in recent history. ▪ a *close* race ▪ At this point, the election is ***too close to call***. [=it is not clear who will win] ✧ When you are ***a close second***, there is a small difference between you and the winner. ▪ Vanilla is the most popular flavor while chocolate is/finishes/runs *a close second*. ▪ She won the race while her teammate came in *a close second*. [=her teammate finished soon after her]

12 : very short or near to the skin ▪ a *close* haircut/shave

13 : fitting tightly : having no extra space ▪ I think there's enough room in the car for all of us, but it'll be a *close* [=*tight*] fit. — see also CLOSE-FITTING

14 : warm in an uncomfortable way : not having enough fresh air ▪ It's very *close* in here: let's open a window.

close to home ✧ If something is *close to home*, it affects you in a strong and personal way. ▪ I'm a teacher, so their criticisms of our educational system hit *close to home*. ▪ People are usually not concerned about crime until it comes *close to home*. [=until it affects them directly]

close to the bone ✧ If something is *close to the bone*, it is very honest and deals with sensitive issues that can shock people or hurt their feelings. ▪ His joke about racism in America cut pretty *close to the bone*.

close to the edge see [1]EDGE

close to the mark see [1]MARK

close to your chest *or US* ***close to the vest*** ✧ If you hold, keep, or play something *close to your chest* or *close to the vest*, you do not tell other people about it. ▪ It's better to hold such information *close to the vest*. ▪ She tends to keep her opinions *close to her chest*.

– **close•ly** *adv* [*more ~; most ~*] ▪ Don't drive too *closely* behind the car in front of you. ▪ The houses on our street are crowded very *closely* together. ▪ She *closely* resembles her mother. ▪ The suspects were watched *closely* by the police. ▪ We've been studying their behavior very *closely*. ▪ *closely* related family members – **close•ness** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the *closeness* of the election results ▪ the *closeness* felt by a parent and child

[3]close /ˈklous/ *adv* **clos•er; -est :** at or to a short distance or time away ▪ Don't drive so *close* to the car in front of you. ▪ He told me to stay/keep *close* as we walked through the crowd. ▪ Come *close*, everyone. ▪ Look *close* [=*closely*] and tell me what you see. ▪ She drew me *close* (to her) and held me. ▪ The time for a decision is drawing *closer*. ▪ My teammate came in third, and I finished ***close behind***. ▪ They sat ***close together*** at the dinner table.

close at hand **:** near in time or place ▪ I always keep a few tissues *close at hand* [=near me] just in case. ▪ The time for us to leave was *close at hand*.

close by **:** at a short distance away ▪ Don't worry: if anything happens I'll be (standing) *close by* (you). ▪ They're building a school *close by*.

close on *Brit* **:** almost or nearly ▪ We walked for *close on* [=*close to*] five miles.

close to **1 :** almost or nearly ▪ They spent *close to* half a million dollars on the project. ▪ Our company employs *close to* a thousand workers. ▪ I haven't seen her in *close to* a year. ▪ I sat there for *close to* an hour. **2** *Brit* **:** from a short distance ▪ She's even more beautiful when seen *close to*. [=*close up*]

close up *or* ***up close*** **:** from a short distance : at close range ▪ You have to look at the painting *close up* to really appreciate its detail. ▪ It looks very different *up close*. — see also CLOSE-UP

come close **1 :** to almost do something ▪ We didn't win, but we *came close*. — often + *to* ▪ The band *came* very *close to* breaking up. ▪ We *came close to* winning the championship this season. **2 :** to be similar to something or as good as expected ▪ She said they taste just like real hot dogs, but they don't even *come close* (to the real thing).

cut it close see [1]CUT

[4]close /ˈklouz/ *noun* [*singular*] *formal* **:** the end of an activity or a period of time ▪ Students vote for their favorite teacher at the *close* of each year. ▪ At the *close* of trading, the stock market was two percent lower than yesterday. ▪ As the year ***drew to a close***, the debate over the new project grew more intense. ▪ The war finally appears to be ***coming to a close***. ▪ She ***brought*** the show ***to a close*** with a performance of her most famous song. — see also COMPLIMENTARY CLOSE — compare [5]CLOSE

[5]close /ˈklous/ *noun, pl* **clos•es** [*count*] *Brit*

1 : the area and buildings that are around a cathedral ▪ a cathedral *close*

2 : a road that is closed at one end — used in street names ▪ Turn into Bloomhill *Close*.

– compare [4]CLOSE

close call /ˈklous-/ *noun, pl* **~ calls** [*count*] **:** an escape that was almost not successful ▪ We nearly didn't get out of the burning building. It was a pretty *close call*, let me tell you! — called also *close shave*

close–cropped /ˈklous,krɑ:pt/ *adj* **:** cut very short ▪ his *close-cropped* hair ▪ the *close-cropped* grass of the golf course

closed /ˈklouzd/ *adj*

1 : covering an opening ▪ All the windows in the house are *closed*. [=*shut*] : having an opening that is covered ▪ Keep your eyes *closed*. ▪ He looked at me through half-*closed* eyes. ▪ a *closed* container ▪ a *closed* umbrella

2 : not operating or open to the public ▪ The store is *closed* for lunch between 1 and 2 p.m. ▪ The beach is *closed* this time of night. ▪ These restrooms are *closed* for cleaning. ▪ a *closed* road/bridge

3 a : having ended : not being worked on anymore ▪ The case is *closed*. **b :** no longer able to be discussed ▪ The question is *closed*. ▪ The chairman declared the discussion *closed* and allowed no further speeches.

4 : including only people from a particular group ▪ There was a *closed* circle of advisers protecting the President. ▪ clubs with *closed* memberships

5 : happening in private : not allowing the public to participate or know what is being said or done ▪ The meeting was *closed* to the public. ▪ The Prime Minister said that today's *closed* meeting with the President was particularly constructive. ▪ a *closed* session of Congress

6 : not willing to listen to or accept different ideas or opinions ▪ *closed* societies ▪ I had a ***closed mind*** at first, but now I understand the need for change.

behind closed doors **:** in a private room or place : in private ▪ All of their meetings are held *behind closed doors*. ▪ They seemed like the perfect couple, but you never know

what goes on *behind closed doors*. ▪ The decisions are made *behind closed doors*.

with your eyes closed see [1]EYE

closed–cap·tioned /ˈkloʊzdˈkæpʃənd/ *adj, of a television show or movie* : having written words that appear on the screen to describe what is being said for people who do not hear well and that can only be seen if you are using a special device

– **closed–cap·tion·ing** /ˈkloʊzdˈkæpʃənɪŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*]

closed–cir·cuit /ˈkloʊzdˈsɚkət/ *adj, always used before a noun* — used to describe a television system that sends its signal through wires to a limited number of televisions ▪ The store uses *closed-circuit* television to monitor the activities of shoppers.

closed–door /ˈkloʊzdˈdoɚ/ *adj, always used before a noun* : held secretly or privately ▪ The council held a *closed-door* session in Washington. ▪ *closed-door* meetings

closed–mind·ed /ˈkloʊzdˈmaɪndəd/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *chiefly US, disapproving* : not willing to consider different ideas or opinions : having or showing a closed mind ▪ He's becoming increasingly *closed-minded* in his old age. ▪ a *closed-minded* refusal to listen — opposite OPEN-MINDED

– **closed–mind·ed·ly** *adv* – **closed–mind·ed·ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

closed–mouthed /ˈkloʊzdˈmaʊθt/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *US* : CLOSE-MOUTHED ▪ He remains *closed-mouthed* about his plans.

close·down /ˈkloʊzˌdaʊn/ *noun, pl* **-downs**

1 [*count*] *chiefly Brit* : an occurrence or situation in which work is stopped for a long time or permanently in a business, factory, etc. : SHUTDOWN ▪ plant *closedowns* ▪ a government *closedown*

2 [*singular*] *Brit* : the end of television or radio broadcasts for the day — see also *close down* at [1]CLOSE

close–fit·ting /ˈkloʊsˈfɪtɪŋ/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *of clothes* : fitting tightly to the body : not baggy or loose ▪ a *close-fitting* pair of pants

close–knit /ˈkloʊsˈnɪt/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] — used to describe a group of people who care about each other and who are very friendly with each other ▪ a *close-knit* family ▪ *close-knit* communities/towns

close–mind·ed /ˈkloʊzˈmaɪndəd/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *US* : CLOSED-MINDED ▪ *close-minded* people ▪ a very *close-minded* attitude

close–mouthed /ˈkloʊsˈmaʊθt/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *US* : not saying very much especially about a secret or about a particular subject ▪ *close-mouthed* officials ▪ They've been *close-mouthed* [=*secretive*] about the settlement.

close·out /ˈkloʊzˌaʊt/ *noun, pl* **-outs** [*count*] *US*

1 a : a sale in which a store tries to sell all of its products because the store is going out of business ▪ a store *closeout* **b** : a sale to sell all of the old models of a product so that a store can sell the new models

2 : a product that is being sold at a closeout ▪ a store that sells *closeouts* — see also *close out* at [1]CLOSE

clos·er /ˈkloʊzɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *baseball* : a pitcher who specializes in finishing games

close–set /ˈkloʊsˈsɛt/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *of eyes* : close together ▪ her *close-set* eyes

close shave *noun, pl* **~ shaves** [*count*] : CLOSE CALL ▪ I've had a few *close shaves* in my lifetime, but this one was the scariest.

[1]clos·et /ˈklɑːzət/ *noun, pl* **-ets**

1 [*count*] *chiefly US* : a usually small room that is used for storing things (such as clothing, towels, or dishes) ▪ The sheets and blankets are in the hall *closet*. ▪ He has a *closet* full of new clothes. ▪ broom/coat *closets* ▪ a ***walk-in closet*** [=a large closet usually for clothes] — see also WATER CLOSET

2 [*noncount*] : a state in which someone will not talk about something or admit something; *especially* : a state in which someone will not admit being a homosexual — usually used in the phrases ***in the closet*** or ***out of the closet*** ▪ He's still *in the closet*. [=he has not told people that he is gay] ▪ She ***came out of the closet*** in college.

skeleton in the/your closet see [1]SKELETON

[2]closet *adj, always used before a noun* : hiding the fact that you are a particular type of person ▪ She's a *closet* racist. [=she does not want people to know that she is a racist] ▪ Some people think he's a *closet* homosexual.

[3]closet *verb* **-ets; -et·ed; -et·ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to put (yourself) in a room in order to be alone ▪ He *closeted* himself in his apartment for several days.

2 : to bring (someone) into a room in order to talk privately — usually used as *(be) closeted* ▪ The manager *was closeted* with one of her employees for several hours.

close–up /ˈkloʊsˌʌp/ *noun, pl* **-ups** : a photograph or movie picture taken very close to an object or person [*count*] "Move in for a *close-up*," said the film's director. ▪ a *close-up* of her face [*noncount*] The scene was shot ***in close-up***.

– **close–up** /ˌkloʊsˈʌp/ *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ Get a *close-up* shot of them kissing.

[1]clos·ing /ˈkloʊzɪŋ/ *noun, pl* **-ings** [*count*]

1 : a situation or occurrence in which a business or organization shuts down and stops its operations ▪ factory/plant/store *closings* ▪ the *closing* of the local school/hospital

2 : the last part of a letter or speech ▪ a very brief/abrupt *closing*

3 : a meeting in which the owners of a house formally give ownership of the house to other people ▪ We met with our lawyer before the *closing* on our new house. ▪ ***closing costs*** [=the extra amounts of money that people need to pay when they buy a house]

in closing *formal* : at the end of a speech, letter, etc. ▪ "Thank you all for your help, and for making the fair such a big success," she said *in closing*. — used to introduce the final remarks in a speech, letter, etc. ▪ *In closing* [=*in conclusion*], I would like to make one final point.

[2]closing *adj, always used before a noun* : forming the last part or end of something ▪ the book's *closing* chapters/pages/lines ▪ the *closing* days/years of his life ▪ In her *closing* arguments, the lawyer repeated that her client was not guilty. ▪ his *closing* remarks in the debate ▪ the *closing* ceremonies of the Olympics ▪ His name's listed in the movie's *closing* credits.

closing date *noun, pl* **~ dates** [*count*] *Brit* : the last day that something (such as applying for a job or entering a contest) can be done : DEADLINE ▪ The *closing date* for entries is October 1st.

closing price *noun, pl* **~ prices** [*count*] : the price of a stock or bond at the end of a day ▪ the previous day's *closing price*

closing time *noun* [*noncount*] : the time when businesses (such as banks and bars) close for the day

clo·sure /ˈkloʊʒɚ/ *noun, pl* **-sures**

1 [*count*] : a situation or occurrence in which something (such as a business or factory) closes forever ▪ business *closures* [=*closings*] ▪ a school *closure* = the *closure* of a school ▪ The government forced the *closure* of the factory.

2 [*noncount*] **a** : a feeling that something has been completed or that a problem has been solved ▪ I need to talk to him and get some *closure* on this issue. **b** : a feeling that a bad experience (such as a divorce or the death of a family member) has ended and that you can start to live again in a calm and normal way ▪ Going to the memorial service for his late wife made it possible for him to achieve *closure*. ▪ We all felt a sense of *closure* after our sister's murderer was sent to jail. ▪ trying to bring *closure* to the victim's family

3 [*count*] : the way that something (such as a jacket) is closed together — usually singular ▪ The coat has a zipper *closure*. [=the coat is closed with a zipper]

[1]clot /ˈklɑːt/ *noun, pl* **clots** [*count*]

1 : BLOOD CLOT ▪ We were told that his stroke was caused by a *clot* in his brain.

2 *Brit, informal* : a stupid person ▪ That stupid little *clot*!

[2]clot *verb* **clots; clot·ted; clot·ting** : to become thick and partly solid : to develop clots [*no obj*] medications that prevent blood from *clotting* [+ *obj*] substances that help to *clot* blood

– **clotted** *adj* ▪ *clotted* blood ▪ *clotted* arteries [=arteries that are blocked by blood clots] — sometimes used figuratively ▪ The streets are *clotted* [=*clogged*] with traffic. — see also CLOTTED CREAM – **clotting** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ I take a drug to prevent (blood) *clotting*.

cloth /ˈklɑːθ/ *noun, pl* **cloths** /ˈklɑːðz, ˈklɑːθs/

1 : material that is made by weaving together threads of cotton, wool, nylon, etc., and that is used to make clothes, sheets, etc. [*noncount*] a piece of *cloth* [=*fabric*] [*count*] The dress is made out of a beautiful silk *cloth*. — often used before another noun ▪ *cloth* napkins/diapers ▪ a *cloth* bag

2 [*count*] : a piece of cloth that is used for a particular purpose (such as cleaning things) ▪ Wipe the surface with a clean dry *cloth*. ▪ a damp/wet *cloth* — see also DISHCLOTH, FACE-

CLOTH, LOINCLOTH, TABLECLOTH, WASHCLOTH

3 *the cloth* : Christian priests and ministers : CLERGY ▪ He has great respect for *the cloth*. ▪ ***a man of the cloth*** [=a priest or minister]

cut from the same cloth ✧ If people or things are *cut from the same cloth*, they are very similar to each other. ▪ Our mothers were *cut from the same cloth*. ▪ The country's new president is *cut from the same cloth* as his predecessor.

out of whole cloth *US, informal* ✧ If something is created *out of whole cloth*, it is invented in order to trick someone into believing something. ▪ He would make up stories *out of whole cloth* just to stir up trouble.

clothe /ˈkloʊð/ *verb* **clothes**; **clothed** *also* **clad** /ˈkʰlæd/; **cloth·ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to provide (someone) with clothes ▪ the cost of feeding and *clothing* your children

2 *formal* : to dress (someone) *in* a particular type of clothing ▪ people who *clothe* themselves *in* designer fashions [=people who wear expensive clothes]

clothed *adj*

1 : wearing clothes ▪ He fell into the swimming pool fully *clothed*. ▪ scantily *clothed* [=(more commonly) *clad*] young women — often + *in* ▪ The men were *clothed* entirely *in* black. ▪ She answered the door *clothed* only *in* her bathrobe.

2 : covered *in* something ▪ The land is *clothed in* dense green forests. ▪ a bird *clothed in* bright yellow feathers

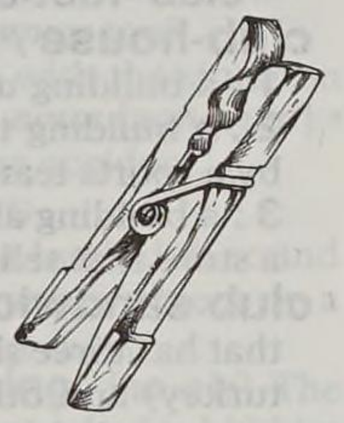
clothes /ˈkloʊz/ *noun* [*plural*] : the things that people wear to cover their bodies and that are usually made from cloth ▪ heavy winter *clothes* [=*clothing*] ▪ I need some new *clothes* for the summer. ▪ My sister and I borrow each other's *clothes* all the time. ▪ Always wear your best *clothes* for interviews. ▪ dress *clothes* [=fancy or formal things to wear] ▪ work *clothes* [=items that are appropriate to wear at work] ▪ He changed his *clothes*. ▪ I bought a new *clothes* dryer/washer. ▪ a *clothes* hamper — see also *plain clothes* at ¹PLAIN ***synonyms*** see CLOTHING

clothes hanger *noun, pl* ~ **-ers** [*count*] : COAT HANGER

clothes·horse /ˈkloʊzˌhoəs/ *noun, pl* **-hors·es** [*count*] *informal + sometimes disapproving* : a person who likes to wear stylish clothing ▪ My teenage daughter's a real *clotheshorse*.

clothes·line /ˈkloʊzˌlaɪn/ *noun, pl* **-lines** [*count*] : a piece of rope or a wire that people hang wet clothes on to dry

clothes·pin /ˈkloʊzˌpɪn/ *noun, pl* **-pins** [*count*] *US* : a small object used for holding clothes on a clothesline — called also (*Brit*) *clothes peg*



clothespin

cloth·ier /ˈkloʊðjəʳ/ *noun, pl* **-iers** [*count*] *somewhat old-fashioned* : a person or business that makes or sells clothing ▪ the city's finest *clothiers*

cloth·ing /ˈkloʊðɪŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the things that people wear to cover their bodies ▪ an expensive article/item/piece of *clothing* ▪ winter *clothing* ▪ women's/men's/children's *clothing* [=*clothes*] ▪ We're collecting food and *clothing* for the poor. ▪ Only people wearing protective *clothing* may enter the room. — often used before another noun ▪ *clothing* stores ▪ a *clothing* company/manufacturer ▪ the *clothing* industry — see pictures of clothing starting on page C13

a wolf in sheep's clothing see ¹WOLF

synonyms CLOTHING and CLOTHES both refer to the things that people wear to cover their bodies. *Clothing* tends to be used when discussing a particular type of clothes or talking about clothes in general. ▪ a shop that sells vintage *clothing* ▪ Food, *clothing*, and shelter are things that every person needs. *Clothes* is usually used when you are talking about the things that someone is wearing. ▪ I need to put on some clean *clothes*. ▪ He's wearing fancy *clothes* today. *Clothing* is somewhat more formal than *clothes* and is not used in speech as often as *clothes*. There is no singular form of *clothes*, but you can talk about *an article/piece/item of clothing* if you want to refer to one thing that you wear.

clotted cream *noun* [*noncount*] : a very thick kind of cream that is made and eaten especially in England

¹cloud /ˈklaʊd/ *noun, pl* **clouds** [*count*]

1 : a white or gray mass in the sky that is made of many very small drops of water ▪ The sun is shining and there's not a *cloud* in the sky. ▪ a rain *cloud* ▪ flying high above the *clouds* ▪ It stopped raining and the sun poked through the *clouds*. ▪ Thick ***cloud cover*** [=a large number of clouds in the sky] hid the moon. — see also MUSHROOM CLOUD, STORM CLOUD

2 a : a large amount of smoke, dust, etc., that hangs in the air ▪ a *cloud* of cigarette smoke ▪ *clouds* of steam/gas ▪ dust *clouds* **b** : a large number of things (such as insects) that move together through the air in a group ▪ a *cloud* [=*swarm*] of bees

3 : a feeling or belief that a person or organization has done something wrong ▪ The company remains ***under a cloud of suspicion***. [=people believe the company did something wrong] ▪ The team has been ***under a cloud*** since its members were caught cheating. ▪ There's ***a cloud of controversy/uncertainty/doubt*** hanging over the election.

cast a (dark) cloud : to cause people to stop trusting something ▪ The scandal *cast a cloud* over his presidency. [=people thought the President did something wrong] ▪ Several problems have *cast a cloud* on the program's future.

cloud on the horizon : a problem that could appear in the future ▪ The only *cloud on the horizon* for the team is the age of its key players.

every cloud has a silver lining see SILVER LINING

in the clouds ✧ If you are *in the clouds* or you ***have your head in the clouds***, you spend too much time thinking about love or about ideas that are not practical. ▪ Since he met Sara, he's been walking around *with his head in the clouds*.

on cloud nine *informal* : very happy ▪ He's been *on cloud nine* ever since she agreed to marry him.

²cloud *verb* **clouds**; **cloud·ed**; **cloud·ing**

1 [+ *obj*] : to confuse (a person's mind or judgment) ▪ The alcohol must have ***clouded my judgment***. [=made me unable to think clearly] ▪ greed ***clouding the minds*** of men

2 [+ *obj*] : to make (something, such as an issue or situation) difficult to understand ▪ These new ideas only *cloud* the issue further.

3 [+ *obj*] : to affect (something) in a bad way ▪ a scandal that continues to *cloud* [=*tarnish*, *taint*] his reputation ▪ The final years of her life were *clouded* by illness.

4 [*no obj*] *of the sky* : to become covered with clouds — usually + *over* ▪ The sky had *clouded over*, and it was beginning to rain.

5 [+ *obj*] : to cover or fill (a room, the sky, etc.) with large amounts of smoke, dust, etc. ▪ The room was *clouded* with cigarette smoke. ▪ smog *clouding* the sky

6 [+ *obj*] : to cover (glass, a window, etc.) with many very small drops of water ▪ Steam *clouded* [=*fogged up*] the bathroom mirror. ▪ *clouding* the camera lens

7 [*no obj*] *of a person's face or eyes* : to show that someone is worried or unhappy ▪ Her face *clouded* with concern. ▪ Her eyes *clouded* over with tears.

cloud·burst /ˈklaʊdˌbəst/ *noun, pl* **-bursts** [*count*] : a brief time when it rains very hard : a sudden downpour ▪ A *cloudburst* caused the river to flood.

cloud–cuckoo–land *noun* [*noncount*] *chiefly Brit, informal* : LA-LA LAND 1 ▪ If he really thinks he can win the election, he's living in *cloud-cuckoo-land*. [=he's crazy or foolish]

cloud·less /ˈklaʊdləs/ *adj* : without clouds ▪ a *cloudless* [=*clear*] blue sky

cloudy /ˈklaʊdi/ *adj* **cloud·i·er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : having many clouds in the sky ▪ Tomorrow will be *cloudy* and cold. ▪ a *cloudy* day ▪ *cloudy* weather : covered with clouds ▪ partly *cloudy* skies

2 : not clean or clear ▪ a puddle of *cloudy* [=*dirty*, *murky*] water ▪ *cloudy* eyes

– **cloud·i·ness** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ We'll have clear skies in the morning with increasing *cloudiness* in the afternoon.

¹clout /ˈklaʊt/ *noun, pl* **clouts**

1 [*noncount*] : the power to influence or control situations ▪ She used her political *clout* to have another school built. ▪ the country's economic/financial *clout*

2 [*count*] *chiefly Brit, informal* : a hit especially with the hand — usually singular ▪ When she was naughty, she would get a *clout* from her mother.

²clout *verb* **clouts**; **clout·ed**; **clout·ing** [+ *obj*]

1 *baseball* : to hit (the ball) very hard ▪ He *clouted* 19 home runs last year.

2 *chiefly Brit* : to hit (someone or something) hard especially with your hand ▪ He'll *clout* me around the head if he finds out what I've done.

¹clove /ˈkloʊv/ *noun, pl* **cloves** [*count*] : any one of the small sections that are part of a large head of garlic ▪ a garlic *clove*

= a *clove* of garlic — see color picture on page C4 — compare ²CLOVE

²clove *noun, pl* **cloves** [*count*] : a small, dried flower bud that is used in cooking as a spice ▪ two teaspoons of ground *cloves* ▪ Add four whole *cloves*. — compare ¹CLOVE

³clove *past tense of* CLEAVE

cloven *past participle of* ¹CLEAVE

cloven hoof *noun, pl* ~ **hooves** *also* ~ **hoofs** [*count*] : a foot of some animals (such as sheep, goats, or cows) that is divided into two parts

clo•ver /ˈkloʊvɚ/ *noun, pl* **-vers** : a small plant that has usually three leaves on each stem and that usually has round flowers that are white, red, or purple [*noncount*] a field of *clover* [*count*] It's good luck to find a ***four-leaf clover***. [=a clover with four leaves instead of three]

¹clown /ˈklaʊn/ *noun, pl* **clowns** [*count*]

1 : someone who performs in a circus, who wears funny clothes and makeup, and who tries to make people laugh ▪ a circus *clown* ▪ Those big shoes make you look like a *clown*! ▪ a rodeo *clown* [=a person in a rodeo who dresses like a circus clown] — sometimes used before another noun ▪ She came dressed in a *clown* suit/costume. ▪ a big red *clown* nose



clown

2 : someone who often does funny things to make people laugh ▪ His classmates remember him as ***the class clown***. [=a student who tried to make other students laugh] ▪ He was always ***playing the clown***. [=trying to make people laugh]

3 *informal* : a rude or stupid person ▪ Who's the *clown* standing in the middle of the road? ▪ those *clowns* at the state capital

²clown *verb* **clowns**; **clowned**; **clown•ing** [*no obj*] : to act like a clown : to say funny things or act in a silly way — often + *around* ▪ Stop *clowning around*. We've got work to do.

clown•ish /ˈklaʊnɪʃ/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : like a clown ▪ his *clownish* red nose : acting in a silly or funny way ▪ *clownish* behavior ▪ her *clownish* coworkers

cloy•ing /ˈklojɪŋ/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *disapproving* : too sweet, pleasant, or emotional ▪ a *cloying* romantic comedy ▪ After a while, the softness of his voice becomes *cloying*.

– **cloy•ing•ly** *adv* ▪ a *cloyingly* sweet wine ▪ *cloyingly* cute pink dresses

¹club /ˈklʌb/ *noun, pl* **clubs**

1 [*count*] **a** : a group of people who meet to participate in an activity (such as a sport or hobby) ▪ an exclusive social/men's *club* ▪ Do you belong to any *clubs*? ▪ My friends and I formed/started a chess *club*. [=a group of people who play chess together] ▪ She's the *club* president. = She's the president of the *club*. — see also FAN CLUB, GLEE CLUB, GOLF CLUB 2 **b** : the place where the members of a club meet ▪ I'll see you at the *club*. — see also COUNTRY CLUB, HEALTH CLUB

2 [*count*] : a sports team or organization ▪ the president of a major-league baseball *club* ▪ He spent five years with the *club*. ▪ a ball *club* ▪ a boxing/football/hockey *club*

3 [*count*] : an organization in which people agree to buy things (such as books or CDs) regularly in order to receive a benefit (such as lower prices) ▪ Join our movie *club* now and receive four free DVDs. — see also BOOK CLUB

4 [*count*] : a business that provides entertainment (such as music, dancing, or a show) and that usually serves food and alcohol : NIGHTCLUB ▪ a dance *club* ▪ jazz *clubs* ▪ comedy *clubs* [=clubs in which people perform comedy shows] ▪ They went ***club-hopping***. [=they went to several different clubs in one night] — often used before another noun ▪ *club* owners ▪ *club* music [=dance music that is played in clubs] — see also STRIP CLUB

5 [*count*] : a special metal stick used for hitting a golf ball : GOLF CLUB ▪ I just bought a new set of *clubs*.

6 [*count*] : a heavy usually wooden stick that is used as a weapon ▪ In battle, they used swords and wooden *clubs*. — see also BILLY CLUB

7 a [*count*] : a playing card that is marked with a black shape that looks like three round leaves ▪ one heart, two diamonds, and two *clubs* — see picture at PLAYING CARD **b** ***clubs*** [*plural*] : the suit in a deck of playing cards that consists of cards marked by a black shape that looks like three round leaves ▪ the nine of *clubs* — compare DIAMOND, HEART, SPADE

8 [*count*] *informal* : CLUB SANDWICH ▪ She ordered a turkey *club* with French fries.

in the club *Brit, informal* : PREGNANT

join the club *also* ***welcome to the club*** *informal* — used to say that the problems or feelings someone is having are problems or feelings that you have had yourself ▪ If you don't understand the rules, *join the club*: no one else does either! — often used to suggest that a person's problems or feelings are not unusual and do not deserve much sympathy ▪ So you think you deserve to be paid more money for your work? Well, *join the club*. [=lots of people think they deserve more money] ▪ "My son won't do what I tell him to do." "*Join the club*. I can't get my daughter to obey me, either."

²club *verb* **clubs**; **clubbed**; **club•bing** [+ *obj*] : to hit (a person or animal) with a heavy stick or object ▪ They *clubbed* him with a baseball bat. ▪ He was *clubbed* to death. [=killed by being hit him with a heavy object]

club together [*phrasal verb*] *Brit* : to combine your money with the money of other people ✧ If a group of people *club together* to do something, each member of the group gives some money to pay for something. ▪ We *clubbed together* to buy him a new watch.

club•bing /ˈklʌbɪŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the activity of going to nightclubs in order to dance, drink alcohol, etc. ▪ a night of *clubbing* — often used in the phrases ***go clubbing*** or ***go out clubbing*** ▪ Friday night, we *went out clubbing* in the city.

– **club•ber** /ˈklʌbɚ/ *noun, pl* **-bers** [*count*] ▪ A line of *clubbers* [=people who go to nightclubs] was waiting at the door.

club•by /ˈklʌbi/ *adj* **club•bi•er**; **-est** *US* : friendly only to people who belong to a high social class ▪ the restaurant's *clubby* [=*exclusive*, *elite*] atmosphere ▪ the *clubby* world of New York's social elite

– **club•bi•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

club•foot /ˈklʌbˌfʊt/ *noun, pl* **-feet** [*count*] : a foot that does not have a normal shape : a badly twisted or deformed foot that someone is born with; *also* [*noncount*] : the medical condition of having such a foot ▪ *clubfoot* and other major birth defects

– **club–foot•ed** /ˈklʌbˌfʊtəd/ *adj*

club•house /ˈklʌbˌhaʊs/ *noun, pl* **-hous•es** [*count*]

1 : a building used by a club for its activities

2 : a building that has lockers and showers and that is used by a sports team

3 : a building at a golf course that usually has a locker room, a store that sells golf equipment, and a restaurant

club sandwich *noun, pl* ~ **-wiches** [*count*] : a sandwich that has three slices of bread with two layers of meat (such as turkey) and other cold foods (such as lettuce, tomato, and mayonnaise) between them

club soda *noun* [*noncount*] *US* : SODA WATER

¹cluck /ˈklʌk/ *noun, pl* **clucks** [*count*]

1 a : a short, low sound that is made by a chicken **b** : a short, low sound that is used to show disapproval or sympathy ▪ *clucks* of disapproval

2 *US, informal* : a stupid or foolish person ▪ Don't be such a ***dumb cluck***.

²cluck *verb* **clucks**; **clucked**; **cluck•ing**

1 [*no obj*] *of a chicken* : to make a low sound ▪ The hen *clucked* at her chicks.

2 : to make a low sound with the tongue [*no obj*] The driver *clucked* at the horses to get them moving. ▪ She *clucked* in sympathy/disappointment. [+ *obj*] He *clucked* his tongue.

3 [*no obj*] *informal* : to talk about something in an excited and often disapproving way ▪ Commentators have been *clucking* over/about his lack of experience.

– **clucking** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the *clucking* of chickens in the coop

¹clue /ˈklu:/ *noun, pl* **clues**

1 [*count*] : something that helps a person find something, understand something, or solve a mystery or puzzle ▪ The book gives the reader plenty of *clues* to solve the mystery. ▪ Science gives us *clues* about the origin of the universe. ▪ "Guess who I met today." "Can you give me a *clue*?" ▪ It gives a *clue* as to how to proceed. ▪ a crossword puzzle *clue*

2 [*singular*] *informal* : an understanding of something : knowledge about something : IDEA ▪ Get a *clue*! [=don't be so stupid or clueless] — usually used in negative statements ▪ I had no *clue* what he meant. [=I didn't understand what he

meant at all] ▪ He doesn't have a *clue* when it comes to fixing cars. [=he knows nothing about fixing cars] ▪ Do you have any *clue* about what's going on here? ▪ When it comes to computers, I don't have a *clue*. [=I'm clueless]

[2]clue *verb* **clues; clued; clue•ing** *or* **clu•ing**

clue in [*phrasal verb*] ***clue (someone) in*** *also* ***clue in (someone)*** *informal* : to give information to (someone) ▪ The public should be *clued in* to what's happening. [=should be told about what's happening] — often + *on* ▪ She'll *clue* you *in on* the latest news. — often used as *clued in* ▪ He's totally *clued in on* [=he knows a lot about] the latest computer developments.

clued up *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *Brit, informal* : having a lot of information about something ▪ He's totally *clued up* [=*clued in*] (*on/about* the latest computer developments).

clue•less /ˈkluːləs/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *informal* : not having knowledge about something : unable to understand something ▪ When it comes to computers, I'm *clueless*. ▪ her *clueless* kid brother ▪ They were *clueless* about what to do.

[1]clump /ˈklʌmp/ *noun, pl* **clumps** [*count*]

1 a : a small ball or mass of something ▪ a *clump* of roots/grass/mud **b** : a group of things or people that are close together ▪ There is a *clump* of bushes/trees at the edge of the field. ▪ a *clump of* spectators

2 : a loud, heavy sound made by footsteps ▪ I could hear the *clump* of his footsteps as he came down the stairs.

[2]clump *verb* **clumps; clumped; clump•ing**

1 : to form a mass or clump [*no obj*] The virus causes the cells to *clump* (together). [+ *obj*] The virus *clumps* the cells together.

2 [*no obj*] : to walk with loud, heavy steps ▪ I could hear him *clumping* [=*clomping*] down/up the stairs.

clumpy /ˈklʌmpi/ *adj* **clump•i•er; -est** [*also more ~; most ~*] : having many small clumps ▪ *clumpy* soil

clum•sy /ˈklʌmzi/ *adj* **clum•si•er; -est** [*also more ~; most ~*]

1 : moving or doing things in a very awkward way and tending to drop or break things ▪ I'm sorry about spilling your wine—that was very *clumsy* of me. ▪ I have very *clumsy* hands and tend to drop things. ▪ He is very *clumsy*. = He is a very *clumsy* person.

2 : badly or awkwardly made or done ▪ She made a *clumsy* attempt at a joke.

3 : hard to use : awkward to handle ▪ a *clumsy* tool

– **clum•si•ly** /ˈklʌmzəli/ *adv* ▪ They dealt with the situation *clumsily*. – **clum•si•ness** /ˈklʌmzinəs/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ It was my own *clumsiness* that caused the accident.

clung *past tense and past participle of* CLING

clunk /ˈklʌŋk/ *noun, pl* **clunks** [*count*] : a loud, dull sound that is made when a heavy object hits another object or a surface ▪ The book hit the floor with a loud *clunk*.

– **clunk** *verb* **clunks; clunked; clunk•ing** [*no obj*] The car door *clunked* shut. [+ *obj*] The ball *clunked* [=*hit*] him on the head.

clunk•er /ˈklʌŋkɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *chiefly US, informal*

1 : an old car or machine that does not work well ▪ My first car was an old *clunker* that kept breaking down.

2 : something that is a complete failure ▪ That joke was a real *clunker*. ▪ The director's recent films have all been *clunkers*.

clunky /ˈklʌŋki/ *adj* **clunk•i•er; -est** [*also more ~; most ~*] *informal*

1 : large and awkward in form or appearance ▪ *clunky* shoes

2 : old and not working well ▪ I drive a *clunky* old station wagon. ▪ a *clunky* old computer

3 : badly or awkwardly made or done ▪ His act was full of *clunky* one-liners. ▪ *clunky* dialogue

[1]clus•ter /ˈklʌstɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ters** [*count*] : a group of things or people that are close together ▪ a flower *cluster* ▪ a *cluster* of cottages along the shore ▪ A small *cluster* of people had gathered at the scene of the accident. ▪ *clusters* of grapes

[2]cluster *verb, always followed by a preposition or adverb* **-ters; -tered; -ter•ing** [*no obj*] : to come together to form a group ▪ The children *clustered* around the storyteller.

cluster bomb *noun, pl* **~ bombs** [*count*] : a type of bomb that is dropped from an airplane and that contains many small bombs

[1]clutch /ˈklʌtʃ/ *verb* **clutch•es; clutched; clutch•ing**

1 [+ *obj*] : to hold onto (someone or something) tightly with your hand ▪ I had to *clutch* the counter to keep from falling. ▪ The child *clutched* her mother's hand firmly. ▪ He had a book *clutched* in his hand.

2 [*no obj*] : to try to hold onto someone or something by reaching with your hand — usually + *at* ▪ She *clutched at* his shoulder.

clutch at straws see STRAW

[2]clutch *noun, pl* **clutches** [*count*]

1 : the act of holding or gripping something or someone tightly — usually plural ▪ She struggled to escape his *clutches*. [=he was holding her and she struggled to get away] ▪ The hawk had the mouse ***in its clutches***. [=in its claws] — often used figuratively ▪ They were powerless to oppose them. He had them *in his clutches*. [=he had control of them]

2 a : a pedal that is pressed to change gears in a vehicle ▪ I have to learn how to let the *clutch* out smoothly. — see picture at CAR **b** : the part of a vehicle that is controlled by a clutch ▪ The car needs a new *clutch*.

3 : CLUTCH BAG

in the clutch *US* : in a very important or critical situation especially during a sports competition ▪ He is known for his ability to come through *in the clutch*. ▪ She scored a basket *in the clutch*.

– compare [4]CLUTCH

[3]clutch *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *US*

1 *always used before a noun* : happening during a very important or critical time especially in a sports competition ▪ She scored a *clutch* basket. ▪ a *clutch* hit/play/goal ▪ a *clutch* performance/situation

2 : able to perform well in a very important or critical situation especially in a sports competition ▪ He is a *clutch* hitter/player. = He is *clutch*.

[4]clutch *noun, pl* **clutches** [*count*]

1 a : a group of eggs that is laid by a bird at one time ▪ a *clutch* of eggs **b** : a group of young birds produced by a single group of eggs ▪ a *clutch* of chicks

2 : a small group of things or people ▪ a *clutch* of buildings/onlookers

– compare [2]CLUTCH

clutch bag *noun, pl* **~ bags** [*count*] : a small bag that women use especially on formal occasions : a small handbag

[1]clut•ter /ˈklʌtɚ/ *verb* **-ters; -tered; -ter•ing** [+ *obj*] : to fill or cover (something) with many things : to fill or cover (something) with clutter ▪ Tools *cluttered* the garage. ▪ The garage was *cluttered* with tools. ▪ Try to avoid *cluttering* your desk with books and papers. — often + *up* ▪ Too many signs were *cluttering up* the street corner.

– **cluttered** *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] ▪ a very *cluttered* attic/desk/office/room

[2]clutter *noun* [*noncount*] : a large amount of things that are not arranged in a neat or orderly way : a crowded or disordered collection of things ▪ There's a lot of unnecessary *clutter* in the house. ▪ a pile of *clutter* ▪ desktop *clutter*

Clydes•dale /ˈklaɪdzˌdeɪl/ *noun, pl* **-dales** [*count*] : a type of very large, heavy horse that is used to pull wagons

cm *abbr* centimeter

Cmdr. *abbr* commander

c'mon /kəˈmaːn/ *informal* — used in writing to represent the sound of the phrase *come on* when it is spoken quickly ▪ *C'mon*, everybody, let's go! — see *come on* 3 at [1]COME for situations in which *c'mon* is used

CNN *abbr* Cable News Network

C–note /ˈsiːˌnoʊt/ *noun, pl* **-notes** [*count*] *US, informal* : a 100-dollar bill

co. *abbr* **1** company **2** county

CO *abbr* **1** Colorado **2** commanding officer

c/o *abbr* care of ✧ This abbreviation is used in addresses when you are sending a letter or package to a person by using someone else's address or the address of a company. ▪ The letter was addressed to "John Smith c/o Merriam-Webster, Inc."

co- *prefix*

1 : with : together ▪ *co*exist

2 : associated with another ▪ *co*worker ▪ *co*author ▪ *co*pilot

[1]coach /ˈkoʊtʃ/ *noun, pl* **coach•es**

1 [*count*] **a** : a person who teaches and trains an athlete or performer ▪ a track/tennis star who has been working with a new *coach* ▪ a vocal/voice/drama *coach* **b** : a person who teaches and trains the members of a sports team and makes decisions about how the team plays during games ▪ a football/basketball/soccer *coach*

2 [*count*] *Brit* : a private teacher who gives someone lessons in a particular subject

3 : a large four-wheeled vehicle that is pulled by horses : CARRIAGE [*count*] In those days, people usually traveled long distances in *coaches*. [*noncount*] traveling ***by coach***

— see also STAGECOACH

4 *chiefly Brit* : a large bus with comfortable seating that is used for long trips [*count*] The company hired two *coaches* for the trip. [*noncount*] We traveled ***by coach*** to London. — often used before another noun ▪ a *coach* driver/tour/party

5 [*noncount*] *US* : the section of least expensive seats on an airplane or train ▪ We reserved two seats in *coach*. ▪ I usually ***fly coach***, but on this trip I'm flying first-class. — often used before another noun ▪ *coach* fares/passengers/seats

6 [*count*] *Brit* : a separate section of a train ▪ a passenger *coach* [=(*US*) *car*, (*Brit*) *carriage*]

²coach *verb* **coaches**; **coached**; **coach•ing**

1 a : to teach and train (an athlete or performer) [+ *obj*] She *coaches* young actors/singers. ▪ He *coaches* the tennis star. [*no obj*] He *coaches* in singing. **b** : to teach, train, and direct (a sports team) [+ *obj*] He has *coached* the team for several years. ▪ She *coached* the U.S. gymnastics team at the Olympics. ▪ He *coaches* football and basketball. [=he coaches football and basketball teams] [*no obj*] He has *coached* at the college level for many years.

2 [+ *obj*] *chiefly Brit* : to teach (a student) privately rather than in a class

3 [+ *obj*] : to give (someone) instructions on what to do or say in a particular situation ▪ The lawyer admitted to *coaching* the witness. ▪ It was clear that the witness had been *coached* by her lawyer on how to answer the questions.

– **coaching** *adj* ▪ a *coaching* job/career ▪ the team's *coaching* staff – **coaching** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ She got into *coaching* a couple years ago. ▪ He can pass the test with a little *coaching*. ▪ The lawyer's *coaching* helped the witness.

coach•able /ˈkoʊʧəbəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : capable of being easily taught and trained to do something better ▪ The player/singer is very *coachable*.

coach•load /ˈkoʊʧˌloʊd/ *noun, pl* **-loads** [*count*] *Brit* : a large group of people that fills a coach (sense 4) ▪ two *coachloads* [=(*chiefly US*) *busloads*] of tourists

coach•man /ˈkoʊʧmən/ *noun, pl* **-men** /-mən/ [*count*] *in the past* : a man whose job was driving a carriage pulled by horses

co•ag•u•late /koʊˈægjəˌleɪt/ *verb* **-lates**; **-lat•ed**; **-lat•ing** : to become thick and partly solid [*no obj*] The blood *coagulated*. ▪ The eggs *coagulate* when heated. [+ *obj*] The medicine helps *coagulate* blood.

– **co•ag•u•la•tion** /koʊˌægjəˈleɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*]

coal /ˈkoʊl/ *noun, pl* **coals**

1 [*noncount*] : a black or brownish-black hard substance within the earth that is used as a fuel ▪ a bin of *coal* ▪ The furnace burns *coal*. ▪ a lump of *coal* — often used before another noun ▪ a *coal* bin/mine/bed/stove ▪ the *coal* industry

2 [*count*] **a** : a piece of coal or charcoal especially when burning ▪ When the *coals* are red, they are very hot. **b** *US* : a glowing piece of wood from a fire : EMBER ▪ I toasted one last marshmallow over the *coals* of the campfire.

carry/take coals to Newcastle *Brit* : to take something to a place where it is not needed because a large amount of it is already there

haul/rake (someone) over the coals *informal* : to criticize (someone) very severely ▪ I arrived late for the meeting and was immediately *hauled over the coals* by my boss.

co•a•lesce /ˌkowəˈlɛs/ *verb* **-lesc•es**; **-lesced**; **-lesc•ing** [*no obj*] *formal* : to come together to form one group or mass ▪ a group of young reformers who gradually *coalesced* into a political movement ▪ The ice masses *coalesced* into a glacier over time.

– **co•ales•cence** /ˌkowəˈlɛsn̩s/ *noun* [*noncount*] a glacier formed by *coalescence* of ice masses [*singular*] a *coalescence* of forces

coal•face /ˈkoʊlˌfeɪs/ *noun, pl* **-fac•es** [*count*] *Brit* : the place inside a mine where the coal is cut out of the rock

at the coalface *Brit* : at the place where the actual work of an activity is done ▪ teachers working *at the coalface* in inner-city schools

coal•field /ˈkoʊlˌfiːld/ *noun, pl* **-fields** [*count*] : a large area where there is a lot of coal under the ground

co•a•li•tion /ˌkowəˈlɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**

1 [*count*] : a group of people, groups, or countries who have joined together for a common purpose ▪ The groups united to form a *coalition*. ▪ A multiparty *coalition* ruled the country. ▪ a *coalition* of businesses — often used before another noun ▪ *coalition* forces ▪ a *coalition* government/party

2 [*noncount*] : the action or process of joining together with another or others for a common purpose ▪ The group is working ***in coalition with*** other environmental groups.

coal tar *noun* [*noncount*] : a black, sticky liquid made from coal that is used as a fuel and to make various products (such as soap)

coarse /ˈkoəs/ *adj* **coars•er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : made up of large pieces : not fine ▪ *coarse* sand/salt

2 : having a rough quality ▪ *coarse* wild grass ▪ The dog has a thick, *coarse* coat. ▪ The fabric varies in texture from *coarse* to fine. ▪ He has *coarse* hands.

3 : rude or offensive ▪ a *coarse* joke ▪ *coarse* behavior ▪ *coarse* [=*vulgar*] language

– **coarse•ly** *adv* ▪ *coarsely* chopped vegetables ▪ *coarsely* ground pepper – **coarse•ness** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ We were shocked by the *coarseness* of his behavior.

coars•en /ˈkoəsn̩/ *verb* **-ens**; **-ened**; **-en•ing**

1 a [+ *obj*] : to make (something) rough or rougher ▪ *Coarsen* [=*roughen*] the surface with a file before you apply the glue. ▪ Her hands were *coarsened* by years of hard work. **b** [*no obj*] : to become rough or rougher ▪ His hands *coarsened* [=*roughened*] from years of hard work.

2 a [+ *obj*] : to cause (someone or something) to become rude or offensive ▪ He was *coarsened* by his time in prison. ▪ offensive words that *coarsen* the English language **b** [*no obj*] : to become rude or offensive ▪ The book describes how popular culture has *coarsened* in recent decades.

¹coast /ˈkoʊst/ *noun, pl* **coasts**

1 : the land along or near a sea or ocean [*count*] sea/rocky *coasts* [=*shores*] ▪ the west/east *coast* ▪ He lives on the *coast*. [*noncount*] We drove along a long stretch of *coast*. [=*shore*]

2 ***the Coast*** *US, informal* : the area along or near the Pacific Ocean ▪ He's flying out to *the Coast* tomorrow.

from coast to coast : from one coast to the other coast of a country or continent ▪ They traveled *from coast to coast* across the U.S. ▪ The space shuttle launch was on television stations *from coast to coast*. [=throughout the country] — see also COAST-TO-COAST

the coast is clear ✧ When *the coast is clear* you can go somewhere or do something without being caught or seen because no one is in the area. ▪ OK, *the coast is clear*—you can come out now!

– **coast•al** /ˈkʰoʊstl/ *adj* ▪ *coastal* areas/regions/waters ▪ *coastal* mountains

²coast *verb* **coasts**; **coast•ed**; **coast•ing** [*no obj*]

1 a : to move forward using no power or very little power ▪ The car *coasted* to a stop. ▪ The airplane *coasted* down the runway. **b** : to move downhill by the force of gravity ▪ The children *coasted* on sleds down the snowy hill. ▪ They came *coasting* down the hill on bicycles.

2 : to progress or have success without special effort ▪ After taking a big lead, the team *coasted* to victory. ▪ He was accused of trying to *coast* through school. ▪ She decided she could *coast* along without a job for the next few months. ▪ The company is *coasting* on its good reputation.

coast•er /ˈkoʊstə/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

1 : a small, flat object on which a glass, cup, or dish is placed to protect the surface of a table ▪ Set the glass on a *coaster*.

2 *chiefly US* : ROLLER COASTER 1

3 : a ship that sails along a coast or that is used in trade between ports of the same country

coast guard (*US*) *or Brit* **coast•guard** *noun, pl* ~ **guards**

1 *US* ***the Coast Guard*** *or Brit* ***the Coastguard*** : an organization that has the job of guarding the area along a country's coast and helping people, boats, and ships that are in danger on the sea ✧ The U.S. Coast Guard is a military organization. ▪ Their son joined *the Coast Guard* last year. — often used before another noun ▪ *Coast Guard* officials

2 [*count*] *Brit* : a member of the Coastguard

coast•guards•man /ˈkoʊstˌgɑəʤmən/ *noun, pl* **-men** /-mən/ [*count*] *US* : a member of the Coast Guard

coast•line /ˈkoʊstˌlaɪn/ *noun, pl* **-lines** : the land along the edge of a coast [*count*] a rocky/sandy *coastline* [=*shoreline*] ▪ The plane flew along the eastern *coastline*. [*noncount*] miles of beautiful *coastline*

coast–to–coast /ˈkoʊstəˈkoʊst/ *adj*

1 : going across an entire nation or continent from one coast to another ▪ a *coast-to-coast* flight/broadcast

2 *US, informal* **a** : going from one end of a playing surface (such as a basketball court) to the other ▪ a *coast-to-coast* play **b** : resulting from a coast-to-coast play ▪ a *coast-to-coast* layup

– **coast–to–coast** *adv* ▪ The event was televised *coast-to-coast*.

[1]coat /ˈkoʊt/ *noun, pl* **coats** [*count*]
1 a : an outer piece of clothing that can be long or short and that is worn to keep warm or dry ▪ She put on her *coat*, hat, and gloves, and then she went outside. ▪ a winter/fur/wool *coat* **b** *chiefly US* : a piece of clothing that is worn over a shirt as part of a suit : JACKET ▪ He was wearing a *coat* and tie. ▪ a ***sport coat***
2 : the outer covering of fur, hair, or wool on an animal ▪ The dog has a thick/smooth/shaggy *coat*.
3 : a thin layer of paint covering a surface ▪ a *coat* of paint ▪ The house needed three *coats* to cover the original paint.
– **coatless** *adj* ▪ a shivering, *coatless* child

[2]coat *verb* **coats**; **coat•ed**; **coat•ing** [+ *obj*] : to cover (something or someone) with a thin layer of something ▪ Rock dust *coated* his hair. ▪ My shoes are *coated* with mud. ▪ Ice *coated* the deck. ▪ *Coat* the chicken with flour.

coat hanger *noun, pl* ~ **-ers** [*count*] : a device that is used for hanging clothes in a closet : HANGER



coat hanger

coat•ing /ˈkoʊtɪŋ/ *noun, pl* **-ings** [*count*] : a thin layer or covering of something ▪ The fabric has a *coating* that prevents liquids from soaking through. ▪ A light *coating* of snow had fallen. ▪ There was a *coating* of ice on the pond.

coat of arms *noun, pl* **coats of arms** [*count*] : a special group of pictures that belong to a person, family, or group of people and that are shown on a shield

coat•rack /ˈkoʊtˌræk/ *noun, pl* **-racks** [*count*] : a stand or pole that has pegs, hooks, or hangers that can be used for hanging coats and other clothes

coat•room /ˈkoʊtˌruːm/ *noun, pl* **-rooms** [*count*] *chiefly US* : CHECKROOM

coat•tail /ˈkoʊtˌteɪl/ *noun, pl* **-tails**
1 [*count*] : a long piece of cloth that hangs down at the back of a man's formal coat — usually plural ▪ He caught his *coattails* in the door.
2 *coattails* [*plural*] : the help or influence of another person's work, ideas, or popularity ▪ They were elected to Congress by ***riding (on) the coattails*** of the President. = They were swept into office ***on the coattails*** of the President. [=they were elected because they belong to the same political party as the President, who is very popular]

co•au•thor /ˈkoʊˈɑːθɚ/ *noun, pl* **-thors** [*count*] : someone who writes a book, article, etc., with another person ▪ He and his colleague were the *coauthors* of the study.

coax /ˈkoʊks/ *verb* **coax•es**; **coaxed**; **coax•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to influence or persuade (a person or animal) to do something by talking in a gentle and friendly way ▪ It took almost an hour to *coax* the cat down from the tree. — often + *into* ▪ He wanted to stay home, but I *coaxed* him *into* going out. ▪ Can we *coax* her *into* singing? — sometimes followed by *to* + *verb* ▪ The ad *coaxes* customers *to try* the new product.
2 : to get (something) by talking in a gentle and friendly way ▪ She tried to *coax* a raise from her boss. ▪ He was unable to *coax* an answer out of her.
3 : to cause (something) to do something by making a careful and continual effort ▪ He *coaxed* the fire to burn by blowing on it. ▪ The plant is difficult to *coax* into bloom.
– **coaxing** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ He agreed to go after a little gentle *coaxing*.

co•ax•i•al cable /koʊˈæksijəl-/ *noun, pl* ~ **cables** [*count*] *technical* : a type of electric cable that is used to send telegraph, telephone, and television signals

cob /ˈkɑːb/ *noun, pl* **cobs** [*count*]
1 : CORNCOB ▪ She used a knife to cut the corn from the *cob*. ▪ We had ***corn on the cob***.
2 : a type of horse that has short legs
3 : a male swan

co•balt /ˈkoʊˌbɑːlt/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a hard, shiny, silver-white metal that is often mixed with other metals

cobalt blue *noun* [*noncount*] : a deep blue color — see color picture on page C2

cob•ber /ˈkɑːbɚ/ *noun, pl* **-bers** [*count*] *Australia + New Zealand, informal* : a male friend ▪ remembering his mates and *cobbers* back home

[1]cob•ble /ˈkɑːbəl/ *verb* **cob•bles**; **cob•bled**; **cob•bling** [+ *obj*]
1 : to make (something) by putting together different parts in a quick way — usually + *together* or *up* ▪ The diplomats rushed to *cobble together* a treaty. ▪ The speech was *cobbled together* from papers and lectures. ▪ They worked quickly to *cobble up* a temporary solution.
2 *old-fashioned* : to make or repair (shoes) ▪ expensive leather shoes *cobbled* in Italy

[2]cobble *noun, pl* **cobbles** [*count*] : COBBLESTONE ▪ a street paved with *cobbles*

cobbled *adj* : covered with cobblestones ▪ a *cobbled* street

cob•bler /ˈkɑːblɚ/ *noun, pl* **-blers**
1 [*count*] *old-fashioned* : a person who makes or repairs shoes
2 [*count, noncount*] *US* : a dessert made of cooked fruit covered with a thick crust ▪ peach *cobbler*

cob•ble•stone /ˈkɑːbəlˌstoʊn/ *noun, pl* **-stones** [*count*] : a round stone that is used in paving streets
– **cob•ble•stoned** /ˈkɑːbəlˌstoʊnd/ *adj* ▪ *cobblestoned* streets

co•bra /ˈkoʊbrə/ *noun, pl* **-bras** [*count*] : a very poisonous snake found in Asia and Africa



cobra

cob•web /ˈkɑːbˌwɛb/ *noun, pl* **-webs** [*count*] : the threads of old spider webs that are found in areas that have not been cleaned for a long time ▪ Dirt and *cobwebs* filled the corners of the room. ▪ The barn is filled with *cobwebs*. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ She took a walk to ***clear the cobwebs*** from her mind. [=to clear her mind]
– **cob•webbed** /ˈkɑːbˌwɛbd/ *adj* ▪ a *cobwebbed* attic

co•caine /koʊˈkeɪn/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a powerful drug that is used in medicine to stop pain or is taken illegally for pleasure — called also (*informal*) *coke*

coc•cyx /ˈkɑːksɪks/ *noun, pl* **coc•cy•ges** /ˈkɑːksəˌʤiːz/ *also* **coc•cyx•es** /ˈkɑːksɪksəz/ [*count*] *technical* : the small bone at the end of the spine : TAILBONE

co•chlea /ˈkoʊklijə, ˈkɑːklijə/ *noun, pl* **co•chle•as** *or* **co•chle•ae** /ˈkoʊkliˌiː, ˈkɑːkliˌiː/ [*count*] *technical* : the part of the inner ear that contains the endings of the nerve that carries information about sound to the brain
– **coch•le•ar** /ˈkoʊklijɚ, ˈkɑːklijɚ/ *adj* ▪ the *cochlear* canal/duct/nerve ▪ a ***cochlear implant*** [=an electronic device that allows people with hearing loss to hear some sounds]

[1]cock /ˈkɑːk/ *noun, pl* **cocks** [*count*]
1 : an adult male chicken : ROOSTER ▪ The *cock* was crowing.
2 : a device for stopping or slowing the flow of a liquid or gas through a pipe : STOPCOCK
3 *informal + impolite* : PENIS
cock of the walk ✧ A man who is described as *(the) cock of the walk* is very proud and successful or acts in a very proud way. ▪ He was strutting around like *the cock of the walk* after he got a promotion.

[2]cock *verb* **cocks**; **cocked**; **cock•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to pull back the hammer of (a gun) to get ready to shoot ▪ He *cocked* the pistol/weapon.
2 : to pull or bend back (something) to get ready to throw or hit a ball ▪ The quarterback was tackled just as he *cocked* his arm to throw the ball. ▪ The hitter stood with the bat *cocked*, waiting for a pitch.
3 : to turn, tip, or raise (part of your body or face) upward or to one side ▪ He *cocked* his head to one side. ▪ She *cocked* an eyebrow in disbelief. ▪ The dog sat with one ear *cocked*. ✧ If you ***cock an ear/eye*** or ***cock your ear/eye***, you listen to or look at someone or something with a lot of attention. ▪ If the politicians would *cock an ear* to/toward what voters are saying, they'd realize that the new law isn't working.
4 : to move (a hat) so that it is tilted on your head ▪ His hat was *cocked* to one side.

cock a snook at *Brit, informal* : to show that you do not respect or value (something) ▪ He never misses a chance to *cock a snook at* [=*thumb his nose at*] modern art.

cock up [*phrasal verb*] *Brit, informal* **1** : to make a mistake : to do something incorrectly ▪ Someone had *cocked up* [=*screwed up, messed up*] badly, and the party was a disaster. **2 *cock up (something) or cock (something) up*** : to make mistakes in doing or making (something) ▪ Someone

had *cocked up* [=*screwed up, messed up*] the arrangements. — see also COCK-UP
– see also HALF-COCKED

cock•ade /kɑ'keɪd/ *noun, pl* **-ades** [*count*] : a decoration that is worn on a hat especially as part of a uniform to show a person's status, rank, etc.

cock–a–doo•dle–do /ˌkɑːkəˌduːdl̩'duː/ *noun* [*singular*] : the loud sound that a rooster makes • I was awakened by the rooster's *cock-a-doodle-do* at dawn.

cock–a–hoop /ˌkɑːkə'huːp/ *adj, not used before a noun* [*more ~; most ~*] *chiefly Brit, informal* : very excited and happy about something done • The team was *cock-a-hoop* about/over winning the game.

cock•a•ma•my *or* **cock•a•ma•mie** /ˌkɑːkə'meɪmi/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *US, informal* : ridiculous or silly • Who dreamed up this *cockamamie* idea/scheme? • What *cockamamie* excuse will he come up with this time?

cock–and–bull story /'kɑːkən'bʊl-/ *noun, pl* ~ **stories** [*count*] *informal* : a ridiculous story that is is used as an explanation or excuse • Do you think I'm going to fall for that *cock-and-bull story*?

cock•a•tiel /'kɑːkəˌtiːl/ *noun, pl* **-tiels** [*count*] : a type of small parrot from Australia that has a yellow head and is often kept as a pet

cock•a•too /'kɑːkəˌtuː/ *noun, pl* **-toos** [*count*] : a type of large parrot from Australia that has a large colorful bunch of feathers on top of its head

cocked hat /'kɑːkt-/ *noun, pl* ~ **hats** [*count*] *old-fashioned* : a hat with the edges turned up on two or three sides

into a cocked hat *informal* **1** *US* : into a state of confusion, ruin, etc. • The discovery has knocked/thrown all our old assumptions *into a cocked hat*. [=has completely destroyed all our old assumptions] **2** *Brit* — used to say that one person or thing is much better than another • The old design was good, but this new one knocks/beats it *into a cocked hat*.

cock•er•el /'kɑːkərəl/ *noun, pl* **-els** [*count*] : a young male chicken

cocker spaniel *noun, pl* ~ **-iels** [*count*] : a type of small dog that has long ears and long fur — see picture at DOG

cock•eyed /'kɑːkˌaɪd/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *informal*
1 : turned or tilted to one side : not straight • The windows of the house look *cockeyed*. • a *cockeyed* grin
2 : crazy or foolish • Where did you get those *cockeyed* ideas? • She is full of *cockeyed* optimism.

cock•fight /'kɑːkˌfaɪt/ *noun, pl* **-fights** [*count*] : a fight between roosters that people watch for entertainment
– **cock•fight•ing** /'kɑːkˌfaɪtɪŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*] • Many countries have outlawed *cockfighting*.

cock•le /'kɑːkəl/ *noun, pl* **cock•les** [*count*] : a type of shellfish with a shell that has two parts and is shaped like a heart

warm the cockles of your heart ✧ If something *warms the cockles of your heart*, it makes you have warm and happy feelings. • It is a story with a happy ending to *warm the cockles of your heart*.

cock•le•shell /'kɑːkəlˌʃɛl/ *noun, pl* **-shells** [*count*] : the shell of a cockle

cock•ney *or* **Cock•ney** /'kɑːkni/ *noun, pl* **-neys**
1 [*count*] : a person from the East End of London
2 [*noncount*] : the way of speaking that is typical of cockneys
– **cockney** *adj* • He has a *cockney* accent. • *cockney* slang

cock•pit /'kɑːkˌpɪt/ *noun, pl* **-pits** [*count*] : the area in a boat, airplane, etc., where the pilot or driver sits — see picture at AIRPLANE

cockpit voice recorder *noun, pl* ~ **-ers** [*count*] : a device that records the voices of the pilots and crew in the cockpit of an airplane ✧ If an airplane crashes, its cockpit voice recorder can be used to help find out what caused it to crash.

cock•roach /'kɑːkˌroʊʧ/ *noun, pl* **-roach•es** [*count*] : a black or brown insect that is sometimes found in people's homes — called also (*US*) *roach*; see color picture on page C10

cock•suck•er /'kɑːkˌsʌkɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *informal* + *offensive* : a very stupid or annoying person (especially a man) ✧ This is a very offensive word that should be avoided.

cock•sure /'kɑːk'ʃʊɚ/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : having or showing confidence in a way that is annoying to other people • a *cocksure*, know-it-all attitude • *cocksure* arrogance

cock•tail /'kɑːkˌteɪl/ *noun, pl* **-tails**
1 [*count*] : an alcoholic drink that is a mixture of one or more liquors and other ingredients (such as fruit juice) • We had *cocktails* before dinner. — often used before another noun • a *cocktail* waiter/waitress/bar • a *cocktail* glass • A ***cocktail hour*** [=an hour when people drink cocktails] preceded the dinner.
2 [*count*] : a mixture of different things • The disease is being treated with a *cocktail of* powerful drugs. • a dangerous *cocktail of* chemicals — see also MOLOTOV COCKTAIL
3 [*count, noncount*] : a small dish of a particular food that is served usually at the beginning or end of a meal • a shrimp *cocktail* • fruit *cocktail*

cocktail dress *noun, pl* ~ **dresses** [*count*] : a usually short dress that is suitable for formal occasions

cocktail lounge *noun, pl* ~ **-lounges** [*count*] : a room in a hotel, restaurant, etc., where cocktails and other drinks are served

cocktail party *noun, pl* ~ **-ties** [*count*] : a usually formal party at which alcoholic drinks are served — called also (*Brit*) *drinks party*

cock–up /'kɑːkˌʌp/ *noun, pl* **-ups** [*count*] *Brit, informal* : a situation that is complicated, unpleasant, or difficult to deal with because of someone's mistake • an administrative/bureaucratic *cock-up* [=*mess*] — see also *cock up* at ²COCK

cocky /'kɑːki/ *adj* **cock•i•er**; **-est** [*also more ~; most ~*] *informal* : having or showing confidence in a way that is annoying to other people • a *cocky* young athlete • Don't get too *cocky* about your chances of getting the job.
– **cock•i•ly** /'kɑːkəli/ *adv* • She's *cockily* confident about getting the job. – **cock•i•ness** /'kɑːkinəs/ *noun* [*noncount*]

co•coa /'koʊkoʊ/ *noun, pl* **-coas**
1 [*noncount*] : a brown powder made from roasted cocoa beans that is used to give a chocolate flavor to foods • The recipe calls for three tablespoons of *cocoa*. — called also *cocoa powder*
2 [*count, noncount*] : a hot drink of milk or water mixed with cocoa • a cup of *cocoa*

cocoa bean *noun, pl* ~ **beans** [*count*] : the seed of a tropical tree (called the cacao) that is used in making cocoa, chocolate, and cocoa butter

cocoa butter *noun* [*noncount*] : a pale fat made from cocoa beans that is used in making chocolate and in various products (such as soaps and skin lotions)

co•co•nut /'koʊkəˌnʌt/ *noun, pl* **-nuts**
1 [*count*] : a large fruit that has a thick shell with white flesh and liquid inside it and that grows on a palm tree — see color picture on page C5
2 [*noncount*] : the white flesh of a coconut • The pastry is covered with shredded *coconut*. • a piece of *coconut*

coconut milk *noun* [*noncount*] : the liquid that is inside a coconut

coconut oil *noun* [*noncount*] : an oil taken from coconuts that is used especially in making soaps and food products

coconut shy *noun* [*noncount*] *Brit* : an outdoor game in which players throw balls at coconuts set up on poles in order to knock them down

¹co•coon /kə'kuːn/ *noun, pl* **-coons** [*count*]
1 : a covering usually made of silk which some insects (such as caterpillars) make around themselves to protect them while they grow
2 : something that covers or protects a person or thing • The child was wrapped in a *cocoon* of blankets. • The movie star was surrounded by a protective *cocoon of* bodyguards.

²cocoon *verb* **-coons**; **-cooned**; **-coon•ing**
1 [+ *obj*] : to cover or protect (someone or something) completely — usually used as *(be) cocooned* • We *were* comfortably *cocooned* in our sleeping bags.
2 [*no obj*] *chiefly US* : to spend time at home instead of going out for other activities • Americans are spending more time *cocooning* at home in recent years.
– **co•coon•ing** /kə'kuːnɪŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*] • Americans are doing more *cocooning* in recent years.

cod /'kɑːd/ *noun, pl* **cod** [*count, noncount*] : a large fish that lives in the northern Atlantic Ocean and is often eaten as food

COD *or* **C.O.D.** *abbr* cash on delivery; collect on delivery — used to indicate that payment must be made when something is delivered • The merchandise was shipped *C.O.D.*

co•da /'koʊdə/ *noun, pl* **-das** [*count*] *formal*
1 : an ending part of a piece of music or a work of literature or drama that is separate from the earlier parts • The movie's

coda shows the main character as an adult 25 years later.
2 : something that ends and completes something else — often + *to* ▪ In a fitting *coda to* his career, he served as ambassador to China.

cod•dle /'kɑ:dl̩/ *verb* **cod•dles**; **cod•dled**; **cod•dling** [+ *obj*] *disapproving* : to treat (someone) with too much care or kindness ▪ She *coddles* [=*pampers*] her children. ▪ The judges were accused of *coddling* criminals.

[1]code /'koʊd/ *noun, pl* **codes**
1 [*count*] **a** : a set of laws or regulations ▪ the state's criminal *code* ▪ the tax *code* ▪ the city's plumbing/electrical/building *codes* ▪ The school has a ***dress code*** [=rules about what a person can wear] — see also PENAL CODE **b** : a set of ideas or rules about how to behave ▪ a moral *code* ▪ Everyone in the organization has to follow its *code* of ethics. ▪ The army has a strict *code* of conduct/behavior.
2 a : a set of letters, numbers, symbols, etc., that is used to secretly send messages to someone [*count*] The enemy was unable to break/crack the army's secret *code*. [*noncount*] The message was sent in *code*. — see also MORSE CODE **b** [*count*] : a set of letters, numbers, symbols, etc., that identifies or gives information about something or someone ▪ Every item in the store has a product *code*. ▪ Enter your security *code* to access the computer. ▪ Each employee is given a ***code number***. — see also AREA CODE, BAR CODE, DIALLING CODE, POSTCODE, ZIP CODE
3 [*noncount*] : a set of instructions for a computer ▪ He was hired to write programming *code*. ▪ lines of *code*

[2]code *verb* **codes**; **cod•ed**; **cod•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to put (a message) into the form of a code so that it can be kept secret ▪ The message was *coded*. ▪ The general sent a *coded* message. — compare DECODE
2 : to mark (something) with a code so that it can be identified ▪ Each product has been *coded*. ▪ The trails on the mountain are all ***color coded*** [=each trail is marked by a particular color]
3 : to change (information) into a set of letters, numbers, or symbols that can be read by a computer ▪ Programmers *coded* the data.

co•deine /'koʊˌdi:n/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a drug used to reduce pain

code name *noun, pl* ~ **names** [*count*] : a name that is used to keep someone's or something's real name a secret ▪ Every secret agent has a *code name*.
– **code–name** /'koʊdˌneɪm/ *verb* **-names**; **-named**; **-nam•ing** [+ *obj*] ▪ The military operation is *code-named* "Clean Sweep."

co•de•pen•den•cy /ˌkoʊdɪ'pɛndənsi/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a psychological condition in which someone is in an unhappy and unhealthy relationship that involves living with and providing care for another person (such as a drug addict or an alcoholic)
– **co•de•pen•dent** /ˌkoʊdɪ'pɛndənt/ *adj* ▪ the *codependent* spouse of an alcoholic – **codependent** *noun, pl* **-dents** [*count*] ▪ providing help for *codependents*

cod•er /'koʊdɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a computer programmer

code word *noun, pl* ~ **words** [*count*] : a word or phrase that has a secret meaning or that is used instead of another word or phrase to avoid speaking directly ▪ The *code word* "conflict" has been used for what some people are calling a war.

cod•ger /'kɑ:dʒɚ/ *noun, pl* **-gers** [*count*] *informal* : an old man ▪ Her father is a feisty old *codger*.

cod•i•cil /'kɑ:dəsəl, *Brit* 'kəʊdəsɪl/ *noun, pl* **-cils** [*count*] *law* : a document that adds or changes something in a will

cod•i•fy /'kɑ:dəˌfaɪ/ *verb* **-fies**; **-fied**; **-fy•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to put (laws or rules) together as a code or system ▪ The convention *codified* the rules of war.
2 : to put (things) in an orderly form ▪ The author tries to *codify* important ideas about language.
– **cod•i•fi•ca•tion** /ˌkɑ:dəfə'keɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count, noncount*]

cod–liver oil *noun* [*noncount*] : an oil from the liver of cod that is used in medicine as a source of vitamin A and D

cods•wal•lop /'kɑ:dzˌwɑ:ləp/ *noun* [*noncount*] *Brit, informal* : NONSENSE ▪ That is a load of *codswallop*.

[1]co•ed /'koʊˌɛd/ *noun, pl* **-eds** [*count*] *US, somewhat old-fashioned* : a female student at a college that has both male and female students

[2]coed *adj*
1 : COEDUCATIONAL ▪ a *coed* university/dormitory ▪ The college became/went *coed* this year.
2 *US* : having or including both men and women ▪ The softball team is *coed*. ▪ a *coed* health club

co•ed•u•ca•tion•al /koʊˌɛdʒə'keɪʃənl̩/ *adj, formal* : having both male and female students ▪ a *coeducational* institution

co•ef•fi•cient /ˌkowə'fɪʃənt/ *noun, pl* **-cients** [*count*]
1 *mathematics* : a number by which another number or symbol is multiplied ▪ 5 is the *coefficient* of *y* in the term 5*y*.
2 *physics* : a number that is used to measure some property or characteristic of a substance ▪ a *coefficient* of friction ▪ the metal's *coefficient* of expansion

co•equal /koʊ'i:kwəl/ *adj, formal* : equal with each other ▪ *coequal* branches of government

co•erce /koʊ'ɚs/ *verb* **-erc•es**; **-erced**; **-erc•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to make (someone) do something by using force or threats — usually + *into* ▪ He was *coerced into* signing the confession. ▪ Soldiers *coerced* the residents *into* giving them food. ▪ The singer was *coerced into* a contract with the record company.
2 : to get (something) by using force or threats ▪ A confession was *coerced* from the suspect by police.
– **co•er•cion** /koʊ'ɚʒən, koʊ'ɚʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ They used *coercion* to obtain the confession.

co•er•cive /koʊ'ɚsɪv/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* : using force or threats to make someone do something : using coercion ▪ *coercive* measures/techniques/policies
– **co•er•cive•ly** *adv*

co•ex•ist /ˌkoʊɪg'zɪst/ *verb* **-ists**; **-ist•ed**; **-ist•ing** [*no obj*]
1 : to exist together or at the same time ▪ They found proof that dinosaurs and turtles *coexisted* (with each other). ▪ The species *coexist* in the same environment.
2 : to live in peace with each other ▪ Can the two countries peacefully *coexist*?
– **co•ex•is•tence** /ˌkoʊɪg'zɪstəns/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the *coexistence* of dinosaurs and turtles ▪ The countries live in peaceful *coexistence*.

C of C *abbr* Chamber of Commerce

C of E *abbr* Church of England

cof•fee /'kɑ:fi/ *noun, pl* **-fees**
1 : a dark brown drink made from ground coffee beans and boiled water [*noncount*] a cup of *coffee* ▪ iced/decaffeinated *coffee* ▪ I'll make/brew some *coffee*. [*count*] Would you like another *coffee*? [=another cup of coffee] — often used before another noun ▪ a *coffee* cup ▪ *coffee* mugs ▪ *coffee* ice cream [=ice cream that has the flavor of coffee]
2 [*noncount*] : coffee beans ▪ I bought a pound of *coffee*.
wake up and smell the coffee see [1]WAKE

coffee bar *noun, pl* ~ **bars** [*count*] : a place where coffee and usually other drinks and refreshments are sold

coffee bean *noun, pl* ~ **beans** [*count*] : the bean of a tropical tree or bush from which coffee is made

coffee break *noun, pl* ~ **breaks** [*count*] : a short period of time in which you stop working to rest and have coffee or some other refreshment

coffee cake *noun, pl* ~ **cakes** [*count*] *US* : a sweet, rich bread usually made with fruit, nuts, and spices and often eaten with coffee

cof•fee•house /'kɑ:fiˌhaʊs/ *noun, pl* **-hous•es** [*count*] : a business that sells coffee and usually other drinks and refreshments

coffee machine *noun, pl* ~ **machines** [*count*]
1 : a machine that you can buy cups of coffee from
2 *Brit* : COFFEEMAKER

cof•fee•mak•er /'kɑ:fiˌmeɪkɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a small electrical machine that makes coffee — see picture at KITCHEN

cof•fee•pot /'kɑ:fiˌpɑ:t/ *noun, pl* **-pots** [*count*] : a pot that is used for making and pouring coffee

coffee shop *noun, pl* ~ **shops** [*count*] : a small restaurant that serves coffee and other drinks as well as simple foods ▪ We bought a muffin at the hotel's *coffee shop*.

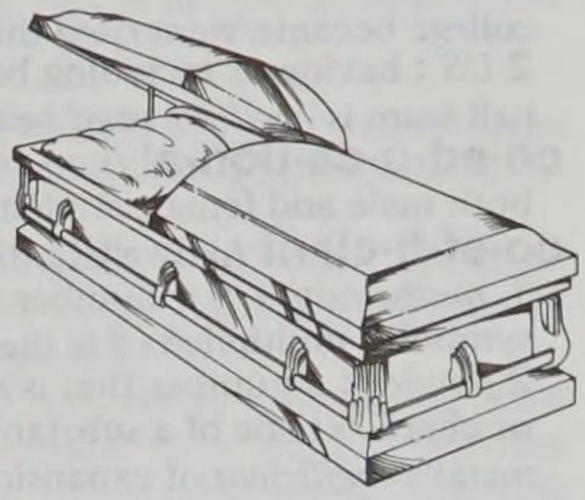
coffee table *noun, pl* ~ **tables** [*count*] : a long, low table that is usually placed in front of a sofa in someone's home — see picture at LIVING ROOM

coffee–table book *noun, pl* ~ **books** [*count*] : a large expensive book with many pictures that is typically placed on a table for people to look at in a casual way

cof•fer /'kɑ:fɚ/ *noun, pl* **-fers**
1 [*count*] : a box for holding money or other valuable things
2 ***coffers*** [*plural*] : money that is available for spending ▪ the city's *coffers* [=*treasury*] ▪ corporate *coffers* [=*funds*]

cof•fin /ˈkɑːfən/ *noun, pl* **-fins** [*count*] : a box in which a dead person is buried

a nail in the/someone's coffin see ¹NAIL



coffin

cog /ˈkɑːg/ *noun, pl* **cogs** [*count*]

1 a : any one of the small parts that stick out on the outer edge of a wheel or gear and that allow it to turn along with another wheel or gear **b :** COGWHEEL

2 : someone or something that is thought of as being like a part of a machine ▪ He was an important *cog* on that championship team. — often used to describe someone who is regarded as an unimportant part of a large business or organization ▪ My brother is just a minor *cog* in the Hollywood machine. He works as an electrician for a film studio. ▪ He's just ***a cog in the machine***.

co•gent /ˈkoʊʤənt/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *formal* : very clear and easy for the mind to accept and believe ▪ She offers some *cogent* [=*convincing, persuasive*] reasons for building new schools. ▪ a *cogent* [=*reasonable*] argument

– **co•gen•cy** /ˈkoʊʤənsi/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ I was impressed by the *cogency* of his arguments. – **co•gent•ly** *adv*

cog•i•tate /ˈkɑːʤəˌteɪt/ *verb* **-tates**; **-tat•ed**; **-ta•ting** [*no obj*] *formal* : to think carefully and seriously about something ▪ I was *cogitating* about/on my chances of failing.

– **cog•i•ta•tion** /ˌkɑːʤəˈteɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] a problem that requires further *cogitation* [=*thought*] [*count*] the *cogitations* of his mind

co•gnac /ˈkoʊnˌjæk, ˈkɑːnˌjæk/ *noun, pl* **-gnacs** [*count, noncount*] : a kind of brandy that is made in France

cog•nate /ˈkɑːgˌneɪt/ *adj, linguistics* : having the same origin ▪ English "eat" and German "essen" are *cognate*. ▪ Spanish and French are *cognate* languages.

– **cognate** *noun, pl* **-nates** [*count*] ▪ "Eat" and "essen" are *cognates*.

cog•ni•tion /kɑːgˈnɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] *technical* : conscious mental activities : the activities of thinking, understanding, learning, and remembering ▪ disabilities affecting *cognition* and judgment

cog•ni•tive /ˈkɑːgnətɪv/ *adj, technical* : of, relating to, or involving conscious mental activities (such as thinking, understanding, learning, and remembering) ▪ *cognitive* development/psychology/impairment

– **cog•ni•tive•ly** *adv* ▪ *cognitively* impaired

cog•ni•zance *also Brit* **cog•ni•sance** /ˈkɑːgnəzəns/ *noun* [*noncount*] *formal* : knowledge or awareness of something ▪ They seemed to have no *cognizance* of the crime.

take cognizance of : to notice or give attention to (something) ▪ He should *take cognizance of* those who disagree with his theory.

cog•ni•zant *also Brit* **cog•ni•sant** /ˈkɑːgnəzənt/ *adj, not used before a noun* [*more ~; most ~*] *formal* : aware of something ▪ He is *cognizant* of his duties as a father.

cog•no•scen•ti /ˌkɑːnjəˈʃɛnti/ *noun*

the cognoscenti : the people who know a lot about something ▪ *the* jazz *cognoscenti* ▪ *the cognoscenti* of the art world

cog•wheel /ˈkɑːgˌwiːl/ *noun, pl* **-wheels** [*count*] : a wheel with cogs : GEAR

co•hab•it /koʊˈhæbət/ *verb* **-its**; **-it•ed**; **-it•ing** [*no obj*] *formal* : to live together and have a sexual relationship ▪ They *cohabited* in a small apartment in the city.

– **co•hab•i•ta•tion** /koʊˌhæbəˈteɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*]

co•here /koʊˈhiɚ/ *verb* **-heres**; **-hered**; **-her•ing** [*no obj*] *formal* : to be combined or united in a logical and effective way ▪ There are several themes in the story but they never *cohere* (with one another).

co•her•ent /koʊˈhirənt/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*]

1 : logical and well-organized : easy to understand ▪ He proposed the most *coherent* plan to improve the schools. ▪ a *coherent* argument/essay

2 : able to talk or express yourself in a clear way that can be easily understood ▪ The drunk man was not *coherent*. [=*understandable*]

3 : working closely and well together ▪ They are able to function as a *coherent* group/team.

– **co•her•ence** /koʊˈhirəns/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ His films are confusing and have little *coherence*. ▪ You make some interesting points, but the essay as a whole lacks *coherence*. [=it moves in a disorganized or confusing way from one idea to another] ▪ The team lacks *coherence*. – **co•herent•ly** *adv* ▪ The student has trouble expressing his ideas *coherently*. ▪ They work *coherently* together.

co•he•sion /koʊˈhiːʒən/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a condition in which people or things are closely united : UNITY ▪ There was a lack of *cohesion* in the rebel army. ▪ social *cohesion*

co•he•sive /koʊˈhiːsɪv/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*]

1 : closely united ▪ Their tribe is a small but *cohesive* group.

2 : causing people to be closely united ▪ Religion can be used as a *cohesive* social force.

– **co•he•sive•ly** *adv* – **co•he•sive•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

co•hort /ˈkoʊˌhoɚt/ *noun, pl* **-horts** [*count*]

1 *often disapproving* : a friend or companion ▪ The police arrested the gang's leader and his *cohorts*.

2 *technical* : a group of people used in a study who have something (such as age or social class) in common ▪ Depression was a common problem for people in that age *cohort*.

coif /ˈkwɑːf/ *verb* **coifs**; **coiffed** *also* **coifed**; **coif•fing** *also* **coif•ing** [+ *obj*] : to cut and arrange someone's hair — usually used as *coiffed* ▪ a carefully *coiffed* man ▪ her perfectly *coiffed* hair

coif•fure /kwɑˈfjuɚ/ *noun, pl* **-fures** [*count*] *formal* : a way of cutting and arranging someone's hair : HAIRDO ▪ a fancy/stylish/elaborate *coiffure*

¹coil /ˈkojəl/ *verb* **coils**; **coiled**; **coil•ing** : to wind (something) into circles [+ *obj*] She *coiled* the loose thread around her finger. ▪ The cat *coiled* herself (up) into a ball on the rug. ▪ A long scarf was *coiled* around her neck. [*no obj*] The cat *coiled* up into a ball. ▪ The snake *coiled* around its prey.

– **coiled** *adj* ▪ *coiled* wire

²coil *noun, pl* **coils** [*count*]

1 : a long thin piece of material (such as a wire, string, or piece of hair) that is wound into circles ▪ a *coil* of wire

2 *technical* : a wire wound into circles that carries electricity

3 : INTRAUTERINE DEVICE

¹coin /ˈkoɪn/ *noun, pl* **coins** [*count*] : a small, flat, and usually round piece of metal issued by a government as money ▪ gold/silver/copper *coins* ▪ I have a dollar in *coins*.

the other/opposite/flip side of the coin : a different way of looking at or thinking about a situation ▪ The economy is improving, but *the other side of the coin* is that inflation is becoming a bigger problem.

toss/flip a coin : to decide something by throwing a coin up in the air and seeing which side is shown after it lands ▪ Let's *toss a coin*. Heads, we don't go; tails, we do.

two sides of the same coin : two things that are regarded as two parts of the same thing ▪ These problems may seem unrelated but they are really *two sides of the same coin*.

²coin *verb* **coins**; **coined**; **coin•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to create (a new word or phrase) that other people begin to use ▪ The coach *coined* the phrase "refuse to lose." ▪ William Shakespeare is believed to have *coined* many words. ✧ The phrase ***to coin a phrase*** is sometimes used in a joking way to say that you know you are using a very common expression. ▪ The couple lived happily ever after, *to coin a phrase*.

2 : to make (money in the form of coins) ▪ The nation plans to *coin* more money.

coin it *or* ***coin money*** *Brit, informal* : to earn a lot of money quickly or easily ▪ They are really *coining it/money* with their new CD.

coin•age /ˈkoɪnɪʤ/ *noun, pl* **-ag•es**

1 a [*noncount*] : the act of creating a new word or phrase that other people begin to use ▪ "Blog" is a word of recent *coinage*. [=a word that was recently created] **b** [*count*] : a word that someone has created ▪ The word "blog" is a recent *coinage*.

2 [*noncount*] **a :** money in the form of coins ▪ *Coinage* was scarce in the colonies. ▪ an expert in Chinese *coinage* **b :** the act or process of creating coins ▪ the *coinage* of money

co•in•cide /ˌkowənˈsaɪd/ *verb* **-cides**; **-cid•ed**; **-cid•ing** [*no obj*]

1 : to happen at the same time as something else ▪ The earthquakes *coincided*. — often + *with* ▪ The population increase *coincided with* rapid industrial growth. ▪ The parade is scheduled to *coincide with* the city's 200th birthday.

2 : to agree with something exactly : to be the same as some-

thing else ▪ The goals of the business partners *coincide*. — often + *with* ▪ Her job *coincided* well *with* her career goals.

co•in•ci•dence /koʊˈɪnsədəns/ *noun, pl* **-denc•es**

1 : a situation in which events happen at the same time in a way that is not planned or expected [*noncount*] It was mere/pure/sheer *coincidence* that brought them together so far from Chicago. ▪ ***By coincidence***, every man in the room was named Fred. ▪ Our meeting happened *by coincidence*. [=*by chance*] [*count*] "I'm going to Boston this weekend." "What a *coincidence*! I am too." ▪ It was no *coincidence* that he quit his job at the bank a day after the robbery. ▪ a series of strange *coincidences* ▪ By a fortunate/happy *coincidence*, we arrived at the theater at the same time.

2 [*singular*] *formal* : the occurrence of two or more things at the same time ▪ Scientists have no explanation for the *coincidence* of these phenomena.

3 [*singular*] *formal* : the state of two or more things being the same — often + *of* ▪ There is a *coincidence of* interests between the companies. [=the companies share the same interests]

co•in•ci•dent /koʊˈɪnsədənt/ *adj, formal* : happening at the same time ▪ *coincident* events — usually + *with* ▪ Animal hibernation is *coincident with* the approach of winter.

co•in•ci•den•tal /koʊˌɪnsəˈdɛntl/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : happening because of a coincidence : not planned ▪ The fact that he and his boss went to the same college was purely/entirely/completely *coincidental*. ▪ a *coincidental* meeting

– **co•in•ci•den•tal•ly** *adv* ▪ Not *coincidentally*, they were both graduates of the same college.

co•i•tus /ˈkowətəs/ *noun* [*noncount*] *technical* : SEXUAL INTERCOURSE

– **co•i•tal** /ˈkowətəl/ *adj*

co•jo•nes /kəˈhoʊˌneɪs/ *noun* [*plural*] *US slang*

1 : boldness or courage needed to do something ▪ You don't have the/enough *cojones* [=*guts*, *nerve*] to fight me.

2 : a man's testicles ▪ threatened to kick him in the *cojones*

[1]coke /ˈkoʊk/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a black material made from coal that is used as fuel for heating — compare [2]COKE

[2]coke *noun* [*noncount*] *informal* : COCAINE ▪ He had a great career before he started snorting/using/taking *coke*. — compare [1]COKE

Coke /ˈkoʊk/ *trademark* — used for a cola drink

coke•head /ˈkoʊkˌhɛd/ *noun, pl* **-heads** [*count*] *informal* : a person who uses cocaine as an illegal drug : a cocaine addict

col. *abbr* column

Col. *abbr* colonel

co•la /ˈkoʊlə/ *noun, pl* **-las** [*count, noncount*] : a sweet brown drink that contains many bubbles ▪ a glass of *cola*

col•an•der /ˈkɑːləndɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ders** [*count*] : a bowl that has many small holes and that is used for washing or draining food — see picture at KITCHEN

[1]cold /ˈkoʊld/ *adj* **cold•er; -est**

1 : having a very low temperature ▪ The water was too *cold* for swimming. ▪ The weather has been unusually *cold* this spring. ▪ a country with a *cold* climate ▪ It was a long, *cold* winter. ▪ It's *cold* outside, but the wind makes it feel even *colder*. ▪ It's bitterly/freezing *cold* out there! ▪ a *cold*, rainy day ▪ metal that is *cold* to the touch ▪ Her hands were icy *cold*. = They were as *cold* as ice.

2 : having a feeling of low body heat ▪ Are you *cold*? I could turn up the temperature if you'd like.

3 a *of food* : not heated ▪ a bowl of *cold* cereal ▪ He ate *cold* pizza for breakfast. ▪ We were happy to eat a hot meal rather than *cold* sandwiches. ▪ *cold* meats **b** *of drinks* : served at a very low temperature or with ice ▪ They're serving coffee, tea, and *cold* drinks. ▪ a *cold* glass of milk ▪ a *cold* beer

4 : not appealing or pleasant : causing a cold or unhappy feeling ▪ the *cold* gray sky ▪ the harsh *cold* lights of the hospital

5 : not friendly or emotional : lacking emotional warmth ▪ Why is he so *cold* and distant toward me? ▪ She gave me a *cold* stare and turned away. ▪ I got a *cold* reception when I came home.

6 : not changed or affected by personal feelings or emotions ▪ Like them or not, these are the *cold* facts! ▪ It's time they took a *cold*, hard look at the situation.

7 : learned or memorized exactly — used with *have* ▪ Keep repeating the lines until you *have* them (down) *cold*. [=until you have memorized them perfectly]

8 : unconscious or sleeping very deeply ▪ He passed out *cold*. — usually used in the phrase ***out cold*** ▪ She was *out cold* by eight o'clock. — see also *knock cold* at [1]KNOCK

9 : not fresh or strong : no longer easy to follow ▪ The dogs picked up a *cold* scent. ▪ The police had been hot on the trail of the escaped prisoners, but then the trail went *cold*.

10 : not close to finding something or solving a puzzle — used especially in children's games ▪ You're getting warmer! You're getting hot! Oh, now you're getting *colder*!

11 : not having success or good luck ▪ The team was hot in the first half, but their shooting turned *cold* in the second half. [=they missed a lot of shots in the second half]

blow hot and cold see [1]BLOW

cast a cold eye on see [1]EYE

in cold blood see BLOOD

in the cold light of day : in the day when things can be seen clearly rather than at night ▪ The house that had looked so sinister at night seemed much less frightening *in the cold light of day*. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ She forced me to look at myself *in the cold light of day*, and I didn't like what I saw.

leave you cold ✧ Something that *leaves you cold* does not interest or excite you. ▪ His movies *leave me cold*.

make someone's blood run cold see BLOOD

pour/throw cold water on see WATER

– **cold•ly** *adv* ▪ "Your application has been denied," he said *coldly*. ▪ She looked at me *coldly* and turned away. – **cold•ness** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the icy *coldness* of winter ▪ Why does he treat me with such *coldness* and reserve?

[2]cold *noun, pl* **colds**

1 [*noncount*] : a cold condition ▪ I mind *cold* more than heat. ▪ They died of exposure to *cold*. ▪ She was shivering with *cold*. [=because she was cold]

2 *the cold* : cold weather ▪ *The cold* really sets in around late November and doesn't let up until April. ▪ I stood there shivering in *the cold*. ▪ He waited outside for her in *the* bitter *cold*. ▪ Come in out of *the cold*.

3 [*count*] : a common illness that affects the nose, throat, and eyes and that usually causes coughing, sneezing, etc. ▪ It's not the flu, it's just a *cold*. ▪ He got/caught a *cold*. = He came down with a *cold*. = (*Brit*) He went down with a *cold*. ▪ the ***common cold*** — often used before another noun ▪ the *cold* virus ▪ *cold* symptoms/remedies — see also HEAD COLD

blue with cold, blue from the cold see [1]BLUE

come in from the cold : to become part of a group or of normal society again after you have been outside it ▪ a former spy who has *come in from the cold*

leave (someone) out in the cold : to leave (someone) in a bad position : to not give (someone) the rights or advantages that are given to others ▪ The changes benefit management but *leave the workers out in the cold*.

[3]cold *adv*

1 *chiefly US* **a** : in a very clear, complete, and definite way ▪ She turned their offer down *cold*. [=*flat*] **b** : in a sudden way ▪ He was telling me a story but stopped *cold* [=*abruptly*] when the door opened.

2 : without practicing or preparing before doing something ▪ She was asked to perform the song *cold*.

cold–blood•ed /ˈkoʊldˈblʌdəd/ *adj*

1 [*more ~; most ~*] : showing no sympathy or mercy ▪ *cold-blooded* [=*ruthless*] murderers : done in a planned way without emotion ▪ a *cold-blooded* killing

2 [*more ~; most ~*] : based on facts : not affected by emotions ▪ A *cold-blooded* [=*cold-eyed*, *dispassionate*] assessment of the situation showed that we had to take harsh measures.

3 *biology* : having cold blood : having a body temperature that is similar to the temperature of the environment ▪ Reptiles are *cold-blooded*. — compare WARM-BLOODED

– **cold–blood•ed•ly** *adv* – **cold–blood•ed•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

cold call *noun, pl* **~ calls** [*count*] : a telephone call made by a business to try to sell something ✧ *Cold calls* are made to people who have not been contacted before and have not asked to be called.

– **cold–call** *verb* **-calls; -called; -call•ing** [+ *obj*] ▪ I *cold-called* the people on the list.

cold cash *noun* [*noncount*] : money that a person has and can use immediately ▪ He paid $500 for it in *cold cash*. [=in cash and not with a check or credit card]

cold•cock /ˈkoʊldˈkɑːk/ *verb* **-cocks; -cocked; -cock•ing** [+ *obj*] *US, informal* : to hit (someone) very hard : to knock out (someone) with a hard punch ▪ He got *coldcocked* by some guy in a bar.

cold comfort *noun* [*noncount*] : something that is good for

a situation but does not make someone happy because the whole situation is still bad ▪ The good news about the economy is *cold comfort* to people who have lost their jobs.

cold cream *noun* [*noncount*] : a cream that people use to clean the face or soften the skin ▪ She uses *cold cream* to remove her eye makeup.

cold cuts *noun* [*plural*] *chiefly US* : cold cooked meats (such as turkey, roast beef, or ham) that have been cut into thin slices

cold–eyed /ˈkoʊldˈaɪd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : not affected by emotions ▪ Unlike her sentimental sister, she has a *cold-eyed* [=*cold-blooded*, *dispassionate*] view of reality. ▪ a *cold-eyed* analysis of the data
2 : having a cold or unfriendly appearance ▪ a *cold-eyed* businessman

cold feet *noun* [*plural*] : a feeling of worry or doubt that is strong enough to stop you from doing something that you planned to do ▪ He was going to ask her to marry him, but he got *cold feet* and couldn't do it.

cold fish *noun, pl* ~ **fish** [*count*] : a cold and unfriendly person ▪ She's a lovely person, but her husband's a bit of a *cold fish*.

cold frame *noun, pl* ~ **frames** [*count*] : a small wooden or metal frame covered with glass or plastic that is used for growing and protecting plants in cold weather

cold front *noun, pl* ~ **fronts** [*count*] : the front edge of a moving mass of cold air ▪ A *cold front* will move in tomorrow, bringing with it clear skies. — compare WARM FRONT

cold-heart-ed /ˈkoʊldˈhɑɚtəd/ *adj* [*or more* ~; *most* ~] : lacking kindness, sympathy, or sensitivity ▪ She's a beautiful but *coldhearted* [=*heartless*] woman. ▪ a *coldhearted* criminal ▪ People are criticizing the government's *coldhearted* plans to stop funding programs for the poor. ▪ a *coldhearted* refusal — opposite WARMHEARTED
– **cold-heart-ed-ly** *adv* – **cold-heart-ed-ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

cold shoulder *noun*
the cold shoulder : cold and unfriendly treatment from someone who knows you ▪ He ***got the cold shoulder*** from his former boss when he saw him at a restaurant. ▪ Most of the other professors ***gave him the cold shoulder***.
– **cold–shoul-der** *verb* **-ders**; **-dered**; **-der-ing** [+ *obj*] ▪ He was *cold-shouldered* by his former boss.

cold sore *noun, pl* ~ **sores** [*count*] : a small sore area around or inside the mouth that is caused by a virus

cold storage *noun* [*noncount*] : the state of being kept in a cold place for later use ▪ food that has been taken out of *cold storage* — often used figuratively ▪ They put/kept the project ***in cold storage*** until funds were obtained for it.

cold sweat *noun* [*singular*] : a condition in which someone is sweating and feeling cold at the same time because of fear, illness, etc. ▪ The patient feels faint and is in a *cold sweat*. ▪ I break out in a *cold sweat* when I think about asking my boss for a pay raise.

cold turkey *noun* [*noncount*] *informal* : the act of stopping a bad habit (such as taking drugs) in a sudden and complete way ▪ I tried lots of ways to stop smoking, even *cold turkey*.
– **cold turkey** *adv* ▪ Instead of trying to quit *cold turkey*, why don't you slowly decrease the amount that you smoke? ▪ Some people have to ***go cold turkey*** to stop.

cold war *noun, pl* ~ **wars**
1 ***the Cold War*** : the nonviolent conflict between the U.S. and the former U.S.S.R. after 1945 ▪ the era of *the Cold War*
2 [*count*] : a conflict or dispute between two groups that does not involve actual fighting ▪ the *cold war* between the party's more liberal and conservative members
– **cold–war** *or* **Cold–War** *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ *cold-war* diplomacy ▪ the *Cold-War* era

cold warrior *noun, pl* ~ **-riors** [*count*] : a person who supported or participated in the Cold War between the U.S. and the U.S.S.R.

cole-slaw /ˈkoʊlˌslɑ:/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a salad made with chopped raw cabbage

col-ic /ˈkɑ:lɪk/ *noun* [*noncount*]
1 : a sharp sudden pain in the stomach
2 : a physical condition in which a baby is very uncomfortable and cries for long periods of time
– **col-icky** /ˈkɑ:lɪki/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ a *colicky* baby

col-i-se-um /ˌkɑ:ləˈsi:jəm/ *noun, pl* **-ums** [*count*] *chiefly US* : a large stadium or building for sports or entertainment

co-li-tis /koʊˈlaɪtəs/ *noun* [*noncount*] *medical* : an illness that causes pain and swelling in the colon

col-lab-o-rate /kəˈlæbəˌreɪt/ *verb* **-rates**; **-rat-ed**; **-rat-ing** [*no obj*]
1 : to work with another person or group in order to achieve or do something ▪ The two companies agreed to *collaborate*. — often + *on* or *in* ▪ They *collaborated on* a book about dogs. ▪ The pair *collaborated* with each other *on* the film. ▪ Several doctors *collaborated in* the project. — sometimes followed by *to* + *verb* ▪ They *collaborated to write* a book.
2 *disapproving* : to give help to an enemy who has invaded your country during a war ▪ He was suspected of *collaborating* with the occupying army.
– **col-lab-o-ra-tion** /kəˌlæbəˈreɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count*] The book is the product of a *collaboration* between two writers. = The book is a *collaboration* between two writers. ▪ an artistic *collaboration* [*noncount*] The writers worked in *collaboration* to produce the book. ▪ He worked in close *collaboration* with French scientists. ▪ He was accused of *collaboration* with the enemy.

col-lab-o-ra-tive /kəˈlæbərətɪv/ *adj* : involving or done by two or more people or groups working together to achieve or do something ▪ a *collaborative* project/study/effort ▪ *collaborative* research
– **col-lab-o-ra-tive-ly** *adv* ▪ They worked *collaboratively* on the project.

col-lab-o-ra-tor /kəˈlæbəˌreɪtɚ/ *noun, pl* **-tors** [*count*]
1 : a person who works with another person or group in order to achieve or do something ▪ She thanked her *collaborators* on the project.
2 : a person who helps an enemy who has invaded his or her country during a war ▪ He was accused of being a Nazi *collaborator*. [=someone who collaborated with the Nazis in World War II]

col-lage /kəˈlɑ:ʒ/ *noun, pl* **-lag-es**
1 a [*count*] : a work of art that is made by attaching pieces of different materials (such as paper, cloth, or wood) to a flat surface ▪ We made *collages* in art class. **b** [*noncount*] : the art or method of making collages ▪ an artist known for her use of *collage*
2 [*count*] : a collection of different things ▪ The album is a *collage* of several musical styles.

col-la-gen /ˈkɑ:ləʤən/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a substance that occurs naturally in the bodies of people and animals and is often put into creams and other products that are sold to make a person's skin smoother and less wrinkled

[1]col-lapse /kəˈlæps/ *verb* **-laps-es**; **-lapsed**; **-laps-ing**
1 [*no obj*] : to break apart and fall down suddenly ▪ The bridge/building *collapsed*. ▪ The roof *collapsed* under a heavy load of snow. ▪ The chair he was sitting in *collapsed*.
2 [*no obj*] **a** : to fall down or become unconscious because you are sick or exhausted ▪ He *collapsed* on stage during the performance and had to be rushed to the hospital. **b** : to completely relax the muscles of your body because you are very tired, upset, etc. ▪ She came home from work and *collapsed* on the sofa. ▪ The crying child ran to his mother and *collapsed* in her arms.
3 [*no obj*] **a** : to fail or stop working suddenly : to break down completely ▪ The civilization *collapsed* for reasons that are still unknown. ▪ He warned that such measures could cause the economy to *collapse*. ▪ Negotiations have completely *collapsed*. **b** : to lose almost all worth : to become much less valuable ▪ The country's currency *collapsed*. ▪ Oil prices had *collapsed*.
4 [*no obj*] *medical* : to become flat and empty ▪ a blood vessel that *collapsed* ▪ a *collapsed* lung
5 : to fold together [*no obj*] The stroller *collapses* easily. [+ *obj*] You can *collapse* the stroller easily and store it in the trunk of your car.
– **col-laps-ible** /kəˈlæpsəbəl/ *adj* ▪ a *collapsible* chair/table/stroller

[2]collapse *noun, pl* **-lapses**
1 : a situation or occurrence in which something (such as a bridge, building, etc.) suddenly breaks apart and falls down [*count*] — usually singular ▪ a fatal bridge *collapse* ▪ The earthquake caused the *collapse* of several homes. ▪ the *collapse* of the roof [*noncount*] The structure is in danger of *collapse*.
2 : a situation or occurrence in which someone suddenly falls down or becomes unconscious because of being sick or exhausted [*count*] — usually singular ▪ After her *collapse* she was rushed to the hospital. ▪ He suffered a *collapse* at work. [*noncount*] She was on the verge of *collapse*.

3 : a situation or occurrence in which something (such as a system or organization) suddenly fails : a complete failure or breakdown [*count*] — usually singular ▪ the *collapse* of the Soviet Union ▪ the *collapse* of negotiations ▪ She moved to the city after the *collapse* of her marriage. [*noncount*] The country has endured civil war and economic *collapse*.

4 : a situation or occurrence in which something loses almost all of its worth or value [*noncount*] The country's currency is in danger of *collapse*. [*count*] — usually singular ▪ a *collapse* in the value of their currency

[1]col•lar /ˈkɑːlɚ/ *noun, pl* **-lars** [*count*]

1 : a part of a piece of clothing that fits around a person's neck and is usually folded down ▪ He wore a shirt with a tight-fitting *collar*. ▪ She grabbed me by the *collar*. ▪ He ***loosened his collar***. [=unbuttoned the top button of his shirt] — see color picture on page C14; see also BLUE-COLLAR, PINK-COLLAR, WHITE-COLLAR

2 : a band of leather, plastic, etc., worn around an animal's neck ▪ I bought a new *collar* for the dog. — see also FLEA COLLAR

3 *technical* : a ring or band used to hold something (such as a pipe or a part of a machine) in place

hot under the collar see [1]HOT

[2]collar *verb* **-lars**; **-lared**; **-lar•ing** [+ *obj*] *informal*

1 : to catch or arrest (someone) ▪ The police *collared* the guy a few blocks from the scene.

2 : to stop (someone) in order to talk : to force (someone) to have a conversation ▪ He *collared* me on my way out the door.

col•lar•bone /ˈkɑːlɚˌboʊn/ *noun, pl* **-bones** [*count*] : a bone that connects the shoulder to the base of the neck — called also *clavicle*; see picture at HUMAN

col•lard greens /ˈkɑːlɚd-/ *noun* [*plural*] *US* : the dark green leaves of a plant that is grown especially in the southern U.S. ✧ Collard greens are cooked and eaten as a vegetable. — see color picture on page C4

col•late /kəˈleɪt, ˈkoʊˌleɪt/ *verb* **-lates**; **-lat•ed**; **-lat•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to gather together information from different sources in order to study it carefully ▪ They are still *collating* the data.

2 : to arrange (sheets of paper) in the correct order ▪ The photocopier will *collate* the pages of the report.

– **col•la•tion** /kəˈleɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count, noncount*]

[1]col•lat•er•al /kəˈlætərəl/ *noun* [*noncount*] : something that you promise to give someone if you cannot pay back a loan ▪ She put up her house as *collateral* for the loan. [=she agreed that she would give up her house if she did not repay the loan]

[2]collateral *adj, formal* : related but not in a direct or close way ▪ *collateral* relatives ▪ the *collateral* effects of the government's policies

collateral damage *noun* [*noncount*] : deaths, injuries, and damage to the property of people who are not in the military that happens as a result of the fighting in a war

col•league /ˈkɑːˌliːg/ *noun, pl* **-leagues** [*count*] *somewhat formal* : a person who works with you : a fellow worker ▪ A *colleague* of mine will be speaking at the conference.

[1]col•lect /kəˈlɛkt/ *verb* **-lects**; **-lect•ed**; **-lect•ing**

1 [+ *obj*] **a** : to get (things) from different places and bring them together ▪ They hope to *collect* over 1,000 signatures on the petition. ▪ He *collected* stories from all over the world. ▪ They *collected* information about the community. ▪ We *collected* soil samples from several areas on the site. **b** : to get (one or more things) from a place ▪ We *collected* our baggage from/at the baggage claim at the airport. ▪ I left my suit at the cleaners and I have to *collect* it today.

2 : to get (similar things) and bring them together as a hobby [+ *obj*] He *collects* postage stamps. ▪ She enjoys *collecting* antique teapots. [*no obj*] He has an impressive stamp collection, though he has been *collecting* for only a few years.

3 [+ *obj*] : to get control of (your thoughts, emotions, etc.) ▪ I took a minute to *collect* my thoughts. ▪ She stopped briefly to *collect* [=*calm*] herself.

4 a [+ *obj*] : to ask for and get (money that someone owes you) ▪ I *collected* the rent from the tenants. ▪ The city *collects* property taxes. **b** : to be given or paid (money) [+ *obj*] She *collects* social security benefits. [*no obj*] — + *on* ▪ He is *collecting on* his disability insurance.

5 : to ask people to give (money or other things) to a group that helps people, a political candidate, etc. [+ *obj*] She has begun *collecting* contributions from supporters. — often + *for* ▪ We *collected* $5,000 *for* the hospital. [*no obj*] I am *collecting for* the local women's shelter.

6 : to come together in a large amount as time passes [*no obj*] Junk started *collecting* in the attic soon after they moved in. ▪ Dust had *collected* on the dashboard. ▪ Snow was *collecting* on the driveway. [+ *obj*] Garbage can *collect* germs. — see also *collect dust* at [1]DUST

7 [+ *obj*] : to go somewhere in order to get (someone you will bring or take to another place) ▪ She *collected* [=*picked up*] the children after school. ▪ I'm going to *collect* him from the airport.

collect up [*phrasal verb*] ***collect up (something)*** *or* ***collect (something) up*** *Brit* : to gather (things) together ▪ I *collected up* [=*picked up*] the dishes and brought them to the kitchen. ▪ The children *collected* their toys *up* and put them away.

[2]collect *adj, US, of a telephone call* : paid for by the person who is receiving the call ▪ a *collect* phone call ▪ The operator asked me if I would accept a *collect* call from John Smith.

– **collect** *adv* ▪ You can call me *collect*. [=you can call me and reverse the charges]

col•lect•ed /kəˈlɛktəd/ *adj*

1 *always used before a noun* : brought together in a group ▪ the *collected* works of Shakespeare

2 *not used before a noun* [*more ~; most ~*] : calm and in control of your emotions ▪ She seemed completely cool, calm, and *collected* during her speech.

[1]col•lect•ible *or chiefly Brit* **col•lect•able** /kəˈlɛktəbəl/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : good for a collection : considered valuable by collectors ▪ The shop sells antiques and various *collectible* items. ▪ That kind of toy is very *collectible* [=popular with collectors] right now.

[2]collectible *or chiefly Brit* **collectable** *noun, pl* **-ibles** [*count*] : something that is considered valuable by collectors and usually kept as part of a group of similar things : a collectible thing ▪ She displays her *collectibles* in a glass case.

col•lec•tion /kəˈlɛkʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**

1 : the act or process of getting things from different places and bringing them together [*noncount*] a system of tax *collection* ▪ The technology makes data *collection* easier. [*count*] There will be a trash *collection* this week.

2 [*count*] : a group of interesting or beautiful objects brought together in order to show or study them or as a hobby ▪ The museum's *collection* is one of the best in the country. ▪ his baseball card *collection* — often + *of* ▪ He has a huge *collection of* CDs. ▪ She has an impressive *collection of* modern art. ▪ He has quite a *collection of* exercise equipment. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ She has acquired quite a *collection of* friends/contacts/experiences/stories.

3 [*count*] : a request for money in order to help people or to pay for something important ▪ We ***took up a collection*** for the school renovations.; *also* : the money collected in this way ▪ Ten percent of the *collection* goes to the city's shelters for homeless people. — often used before another noun ▪ a *collection* plate/box

4 [*count*] : a group of clothes that a fashion designer has created ▪ a fashion show featuring his spring *collection*

5 [*count*] : a group of different writings that are brought together in one book ▪ You should consider publishing these stories as a *collection*. — often + *of* ▪ I have a *collection of* her short stories.

[1]col•lec•tive /kəˈlɛktɪv/ *adj, always used before a noun* : shared or done by a group of people : involving all members of a group ▪ We made a *collective* decision to go on strike. ▪ The incident became part of our *collective* memory. ▪ a *collective* effort ▪ the *collective* wisdom of generations ▪ a ***collective noun*** [=a noun like "team" or "flock" that refers to a group of people or things]

– **col•lec•tive•ly** *adv* ▪ the group of languages known *collectively* as Romance languages

[2]collective *noun, pl* **-tives** [*count*] : a business or organization that is owned by the people who work there; *also* : the people who own such a business or organization

collective bargaining *noun* [*noncount*] : talks between an employer and the leaders of a union about how much a group of workers will be paid, how many hours they will work, etc. ▪ The next round of *collective bargaining* is scheduled for September. — often used before another noun ▪ the *collective bargaining* process ▪ *collective bargaining* talks ▪ a *collective bargaining* agreement

collective farm *noun, pl* **~ farms** [*count*] : a farm that is run by several farmers and controlled by the government

col•lec•tiv•ism /kəˈlɛktɪˌvɪzəm/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a politi-

cal or economic system in which the government owns businesses, land, etc.
– **col·lec·tiv·ist** /kə'lɛktɪvɪst/ *adj* ▪ *collectivist* ideology
collective noun *noun, pl* ~ **nouns** [*count*] *technical* : a word (such as *family* or *herd*) that names a group of people or things
col·lec·tor /kə'lɛktɚ/ *noun, pl* **-tors** [*count*]
1 : a person who collects certain things as a hobby ▪ He is an avid stamp *collector*. ▪ The painting was purchased by a private *collector*.
2 : a person whose job is to collect something (such as trash or money) ▪ The trash *collectors* came early today. ▪ a tax/bill/debt *collector*
collector's item *noun, pl* ~ **items** [*count*] : an object that people want because it is rare or valuable ▪ Her paintings have become *collector's items*.
col·lege /'kɑ:lɪʤ/ *noun, pl* **-leg·es**
1 : a school in the U.S. that you go to after high school : a school that offers courses leading to a degree (such as a bachelor's degree or an associate's degree) [*count*] She teaches art at a local *college*. ▪ He graduated from one of the country's best *colleges*. ▪ She attended a business *college*. [*noncount*] He attended *college* for several years, but didn't graduate. ▪ She dropped out of *college*. ▪ Where did you go to *college*? [=what college did you attend?] ▪ I went to Mount Holyoke *College*. ▪ When I was a junior ***in college***, I spent a semester in Spain. — often used before another noun ▪ *college* students/courses/professors ▪ He is a *college* graduate. ▪ She was the first in her family to get a *college* education. ▪ a *college* campus ▪ *college* athletic programs — compare UNIVERSITY; see also COMMUNITY COLLEGE, JUNIOR COLLEGE, STATE COLLEGE
2 [*count*] : a part of an American university that offers courses in a specified subject — often + *of* ▪ He attended the university's *college of* dentistry/engineering/medicine.
3 a : a school in Britain that offers advanced training in a specified subject [*count*] an arts *college* ▪ the Edinburgh *College* of Art ▪ the London *College* of Fashion [*noncount*] She is attending fashion *college*. **b** [*count*] : a separate part of a large British university where students live and take courses ▪ Balliol *College* at Oxford
4 [*count*] *formal* : an organized group of people who have similar jobs or interests ▪ She is a member of the American *College* of Cardiology. ▪ the *college* of cardinals — see also ELECTORAL COLLEGE
col·le·giate /kə'li:ʤət/ *adj* : of or relating to a college or its students ▪ *collegiate* athletics
col·lide /kə'laɪd/ *verb* **-lides**; **-lid·ed**; **-lid·ing** [*no obj*]
1 : to hit something or each other with strong force : to crash together or to crash into something ▪ Two football players *collided* on the field. — often + *with* ▪ Two football players *collided with* each other on the field. ▪ The car *collided with* a truck/tree.
2 — used of situations in which people or groups disagree or are very different from each other ▪ Their ideas for the company often *collide*. [=*clash*] ▪ Two worlds *collide* in a new novel about an American family living in Japan. — often + *with* ▪ The candidate's opinions sometimes *collided with* his party's agenda.
col·lie /'kɑ:li/ *noun, pl* **-lies** [*count*] : a large type of dog with long hair and a long pointed nose
col·lier /'kɑ:ljɚ/ *noun, pl* **-liers** [*count*] *chiefly Brit, old-fashioned* : a coal miner
col·liery /'kɑ:ljəri/ *noun, pl* **-lier·ies** [*count*] *chiefly Brit* : a coal mine and the buildings that are near it
col·li·sion /kə'lɪʒən/ *noun, pl* **-sions** [*count*] : an act of colliding: such as **a** : a crash in which two or more things or people hit each other ▪ The car was destroyed in the *collision*. ▪ There was nothing I could do to avoid a ***head-on collision***. [=a crash of two vehicles that are moving directly toward each other] — often + *between* or *with* ▪ He was injured in a *collision between* a car and an SUV. ▪ She hurt her shoulder in a *collision with* another player. **b** : a situation in which people or groups disagree : a clash or conflict — often + *between* ▪ He reported on the latest *collision between* the two leaders.
collision course *noun*
on a collision course ✧ Two people or things that are *on a collision course* are moving and will crash into each other if one of them doesn't change direction. ▪ The two airplanes were *on a collision course*. ▪ The comet was *on a collision course* with the planet. — often used figuratively ▪ The decision put us *on a collision course* with economic disaster.
col·lo·cate /'kɑ:lə,keɪt/ *verb* **-cates**; **-cat·ed**; **-cat·ing** [*no obj*] *technical* : to appear often with another word ▪ The word "college" *collocates* with "student."
col·lo·ca·tion /kɑlə'keɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**
1 [*noncount*] : use of certain words together ▪ patterns of *collocation*
2 [*count*] : a particular combination of words ▪ a common *collocation*
col·lo·qui·al /kə'loʊkwijəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : used when people are speaking in an informal way ▪ a *colloquial* word/expression
2 : using an informal style ▪ a *colloquial* writer
– **col·lo·qui·al·ly** *adv* ▪ The phrase is used *colloquially* but not in writing. ▪ The drink is known *colloquially* as a "brown cow."
col·lo·qui·al·ism /kə'loʊkwijə,lɪzəm/ *noun, pl* **-isms** [*count*] : a word or phrase that is used mostly in informal speech : a colloquial expression ▪ His English is very good, but he has trouble understanding certain *colloquialisms*.
col·lude /kə'lu:d/ *verb* **-ludes**; **-lud·ed**; **-lud·ing** [*no obj*] : to work with others secretly especially in order to do something illegal or dishonest ▪ The two companies had *colluded* to fix prices. — often + ***in*** or ***with*** ▪ She *colluded in* misleading the public. ▪ He is accused of *colluding with* criminals.
col·lu·sion /kə'lu:ʒən/ *noun* [*noncount*] : secret cooperation for an illegal or dishonest purpose ▪ The company was acting ***in collusion with*** manufacturers to inflate prices. — often + *between* ▪ She uncovered *collusion between* city officials and certain local businesses.
co·logne /kə'loʊn/ *noun, pl* **-lognes** : a liquid that has a light, pleasant smell and that people put on their skin : a light kind of perfume that does not have a strong smell [*noncount*] She put on some *cologne* and combed her hair. ▪ a TV commercial for men's *cologne* [*count*] TV commercials for men's *colognes* — called also *eau de cologne*
[1]co·lon /'koʊlən/ *noun, pl* **-lons** [*count*] *medical* : the main part of the large intestine ▪ He died of *colon* cancer. — see picture at HUMAN — compare [2]COLON
[2]colon *noun, pl* **-lons** [*count*] : the punctuation mark : used in writing and printing to direct attention to what follows it (such as a list, explanation, or quotation) — compare [1]COLON
col·o·nel /'kɚnl/ *noun, pl* **-nels** [*count*] : an officer of high rank in the army, air force, or marines : a military officer who ranks above a major ▪ He retired as a *colonel* in the air force.
[1]co·lo·nial /kə'loʊnijəl/ *adj*
1 a : of or relating to a colony ▪ *colonial* possessions/administration ▪ a *colonial* city **b** : owning or made up of colonies ▪ The country was a *colonial* power. ▪ a *colonial* nation and its *colonial* empire
2 *or* ***Colonial*** : of or relating to the original 13 colonies forming the United States ▪ The book describes life in *Colonial* America. ▪ an example of *colonial* architecture/furniture ▪ The port had been very important in *colonial* times.
3 : in a style that was popular in the U.S. during the American colonial period (before 1776) ▪ They live in a *colonial* (style) house.
[2]colonial *noun, pl* **-nials** [*count*]
1 *or* ***Colonial*** : a two-story house built in a style that was first popular in the U.S. during the American colonial period (before 1776) ▪ They bought a *Colonial* on a quiet street.
2 : a person who is part of a colony : COLONIST ▪ increasing tension between *colonials* and the mother country
co·lo·nial·ism /kə'loʊnijə,lɪzəm/ *noun* [*noncount*] : control by one country over another area and its people
– **co·lo·nial·ist** /kə'loʊnijəlɪst/ *noun, pl* **-ists** [*count*] – **colonialist** *adj* ▪ the *colonialist* past
col·o·nist /'kɑ:lənɪst/ *noun, pl* **-nists** [*count*]
1 : a person who lives in a colony
2 : a person who helps to create a colony ▪ British *colonists* settled the area in the 18th century.
col·o·nize *also Brit* **col·o·nise** /'kɑ:lə,naɪz/ *verb* **-niz·es**; **-nized**; **-niz·ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to create a colony in or on (a place) : to take control of (an area) and send people to live there ▪ England *colonized* Australia. ▪ The area was *colonized* in the 18th century.
2 : to move into and live in (a place) as a new type of plant or animal ▪ Weeds quickly *colonized* the field. ▪ The island had been *colonized* by plants and animals.
– **col·o·ni·za·tion** *also Brit* **col·o·ni·sa·tion** /ˌkɑ:lənə-

ˈzeɪʃən, *Brit* ˌkɒləˌnaɪˈzeɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ European *colonization* of Asia — **col•o•niz•er** *also Brit* **col•o•nis•er** *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] ▪ Certain plants are prolific *colonizers*. ▪ the influence of Dutch and French *colonizers*

col•on•nade /ˌkɑːləˈneɪd/ *noun, pl* **-nades** [*count*] : a row of columns usually holding up a roof ▪ A *colonnade* surrounds the courtyard.

co•lo•nos•co•py /ˌkoʊləˈnɑːskəpi/ *noun, pl* **-pies** [*count*] *medical* : a medical procedure in which a special tube-shaped instrument is used to take pictures of the inside of someone's colon

col•o•ny /ˈkɑːləni/ *noun, pl* **-nies** [*count*]

1 a : an area that is controlled by or belongs to a country and is usually far away from it ▪ Massachusetts was one of the original 13 British *colonies* that later became the United States. ▪ a former French *colony* in Africa **b** : a group of people sent by a country to live in such a colony ▪ a *colony* of settlers

2 : a group of plants or animals living or growing in one place ▪ an ant *colony* ▪ a *colony* of bacteria

3 : a group of people who are similar in some way and who live in a certain area ▪ an artist *colony* ▪ a leper *colony*; *also* : the land or buildings used by such a group

[1]col•or (*US*) *or Brit* **col•our** /ˈkʌlɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ors**

1 : a quality such as red, blue, green, yellow, etc., that you see when you look at something [*count*] The *color* of blood is red. ▪ What *color* are your eyes? ▪ What *color* paint shall we use? ▪ Blue and green are my favorite *colors*. ▪ The pillows are all different *colors*. [*noncount*] The room needs more *color*. ▪ In early summer the garden is full of *color*. ▪ She added *color* to her outfit with a bright scarf. ▪ The leaves are starting to ***change color*** [=turn from green to orange, yellow, red, etc.] ▪ His eyes were bluish-green ***in color***. ▪ She used red peppers in the salad ***for color***. [=to make it more colorful] — see pictures of colors starting on page C1

2 : something used to give color to something : a pigment or dye [*count*] She's using a new lip/nail *color*. ▪ The *color* bled when I washed the shirt. [*noncount*] a brand of hair *color*

3 [*noncount*] **a** : the use or combination of colors ▪ a painter who is a master of *color* **b** — used to describe a photograph, televison picture, etc., that includes colors and that is not black and white ▪ The book includes over 100 photographs ***in (full) color***. [=not black and white] — often used before another noun ▪ a *color* photograph ▪ *color* printing/television — see also *in living color* at LIVING

4 [*noncount*] : the color of a person's skin as a mark of race ▪ discrimination on the basis of sex or *color* ✧ A person ***of color*** is a person who is not white. ▪ The book is about her experience as a woman *of color* in a mostly white community.

5 [*noncount*] : a pink or red tone in a person's face especially because of good health, excitement, or embarrassment ▪ His *color* is not good. [=he looks ill] ▪ She has some good *color* in her cheeks. ▪ He could feel the *color* rising in his cheeks. [=he could feel himself blushing] ▪ The ***color drained from her face***. [=the blood left her face; she became very pale]

6 *colors* [*plural*] : something (such as a flag) that shows that someone or something belongs to a specific group ▪ The ship sails under Swedish *colors*.

7 [*noncount*] : interest or excitement ▪ Her comments added *color* to the broadcast. [=made the broadcast more enjoyable or entertaining] — see also LOCAL COLOR, OFF-COLOR

a horse of a different color see [1]HORSE

show your true colors : to show what you are really like : to reveal your real nature or character ▪ He seemed nice at first, but he *showed his true colors* during the crisis.

with flying colors see [1]FLYING

[2]color (*US*) *or Brit* **colour** *verb* **-ors; -ored; -or•ing**

1 [+ *obj*] : to give color to (something) : to change the color of (something) ▪ We *colored* the water with red ink. ▪ Does she *color* [=*dye*] her hair?

2 : to draw with crayons, markers, colored pencils, etc. : to fill in a shape or picture using markers, crayons, colored pencils, etc. [*no obj*] The children were busy *coloring* in their coloring books. [+ *obj*] My nephew *colored* a picture for me. ▪ The child *colored* the sky blue and the sun yellow. — see also COLOR IN (below)

3 [+ *obj*] : to change (someone's ideas, opinion, attitude, etc.) in some way ▪ He never lets rumors *color* [=*influence, affect*] his opinion of anyone. — often used as *(be) colored* ▪ Her judgment *was colored* by reports of the student's behavioral problems. ▪ His feelings about divorce *are colored* by his own experience as a child.

4 [*no obj*] *literary* : to become red in the face especially because of embarrassment ▪ She *colors* [=*blushes*] easily. — often + *at* ▪ She *colored at* the mention of his name.

color in [*phrasal verb*] ***color in (something) or color (something) in*** : to add color to (a shape or picture) by using markers, crayons, colored pencils etc. ▪ She *colored in* the picture. — see also [2]COLOR 2 (above)

col•or•ant (*US*) *or Brit* **col•our•ant** /ˈkʌlərənt/ *noun, pl* **-ants** [*count, noncount*] : COLORING 2

col•or•a•tion (*chiefly US*) *or Brit* **col•our•a•tion** /ˌkʌləˈreɪʃən/ *noun*

1 [*noncount*] *biology* : the color or patterns of color on an animal or plant ▪ the bird's brilliant *coloration* [=*coloring*] ▪ the *coloration* of a flower

2 : the colors of an object (such as a piece of artwork or furniture) [*noncount*] the bright yellow *coloration* of the curtains [*count*] wine glasses with circle designs and blue and green *colorations*

3 : a quality or characteristic [*noncount*] the novel's political *coloration* [*count*] He attempted to give a religious *coloration* to the war.

col•or•a•tu•ra /ˌkʌlərəˈturə, *Brit* ˌkɒlərəˈtʊərə/ *noun, pl* **-ras**

1 [*noncount*] : a style of singing usually in opera that contains a lot of high notes sung very fast ▪ a performance without much *coloratura*

2 [*count*] : a singer who is able to perform this type of music — often used before another noun ▪ a *coloratura* soprano ▪ *coloratura* roles

col•or–blind (*US*) *or Brit* **col•our–blind** /ˈkʌlɚˌblaɪnd/ *adj*

1 : unable to see the difference between certain colors ▪ Many *color-blind* people cannot distinguish between red and green.

2 : treating people of different skin colors equally : not affected by racial prejudice ▪ The company claims to be *color-blind*. ▪ *color-blind* policies

– color blindness (*US*) *or Brit* **colour blindness** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ He has a common form of *color blindness*.

co•lo•rec•tal /ˌkoʊloʊˈrɛktəl/ *adj, always used before a noun, medical* : of or relating to the lower part of the large intestine : of or relating to the colon and the rectum ▪ *colorectal* cancer

col•ored (*US*) *or Brit* **col•oured** /ˈkʌlɚd/ *adj*

1 : having color : not black or white ▪ We decorated the Christmas tree with *colored* lights. ▪ *colored* glass/pencils

2 : influenced by a person's feelings or prejudices ▪ He gave a ***highly colored*** account of the events.

3 *old-fashioned + sometimes offensive* **a** : of a race other than white; *especially* : [1]BLACK 2 ▪ a *colored* man/woman/child ▪ *colored* people/folks **b** : of or relating to people who are not white ▪ The town she grew up in had a *colored* church and a white church. [=a church attended by black people and a church attended by white people]

col•or•fast (*US*) *or Brit* **col•our•fast** /ˈkʌlɚˌfæst, *Brit* ˈkʌləˌfɑːst/ *adj* : able to keep the same color even if washed, placed in light, etc. ▪ a *colorfast* carpet ▪ *colorfast* printing ink

col•or•ful (*US*) *or Brit* **col•our•ful** /ˈkʌlɚfəl/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*]

1 : having a bright color or a lot of different colors : full of color ▪ I wore a *colorful* outfit. ▪ the bird's *colorful* feathers

2 : interesting or exciting ▪ He gave a *colorful* account of his travels. ▪ She has a *colorful* [=*bright, cheerful*] personality. ▪ He was a ***colorful character***. [=a very unusual person]

3 ✧ If you use ***colorful language*** you use words that are usually considered rude or offensive. ▪ He's been known to use some *colorful language* when he starts talking about politics.

– col•or•ful•ly (*US*) *or Brit* **col•our•ful•ly** /ˈkʌlɚfli/ *adv* ▪ The room was *colorfully* decorated.

color guard (*US*) *or Brit* **colour guard** *noun* [*count*] : a person in uniform who holds a flag in a ceremony or parade

col•or•ing (*US*) *or Brit* **col•our•ing** /ˈkʌlərɪŋ/ *noun, pl* **-ings**

1 [*noncount*] : the act of adding colors to something (such as a picture in a coloring book) ▪ Her favorite activities include playing with stuffed animals and *coloring*.

2 : something that produces color [*noncount*] Our product contains no artificial *coloring* or flavoring. ▪ She added some blue ***food coloring*** to the icing. [*count*] artificial *colorings* ▪ (*US*) a variety of hair *colorings* [=(*Brit*) *colourants*]

3 [*noncount*] **a** : the color of a person's skin and hair ▪ This scarf will look great with your *coloring*. ▪ He has very light

coloring. **b** : the color of an animal or plant ▪ a bird's bright *coloring* [=*coloration*]
4 [*noncount*] : the way color is used ▪ His paintings are notable for their bright *coloring*.

coloring book (*US*) *or Brit* **colouring book** *noun, pl* ~ **books** [*count*] : a book of pictures that you color in with crayons, markers, etc. ▪ I bought my son a new *coloring book*.

col•or•ist (*US*) *or Brit* **col•our•ist** /ˈkʌlərɪst/ *noun, pl* **-ists** [*count*]
1 : a painter who uses color in interesting and effective ways
2 : a person who dyes people's hair

col•or•less (*US*) *or Brit* **col•our•less** /ˈkʌlə-ləs/ *adj*
1 : lacking color ▪ a *colorless* liquid/gas
2 [*more* ~; *most* ~] : dull or boring : not interesting ▪ *colorless* writing

color line *noun, pl* ~ **lines** [*singular*] *US* : a set of customs or laws that does not allow black people to do the same things or be in the same places as white people ▪ Jackie Robinson broke American baseball's *color line*. [=he was the first black man to play professional baseball with white players] — called also (*Brit*) *colour bar*

color scheme (*US*) *or Brit* **colour scheme** *noun, pl* ~ **schemes** [*count*] : a particular combination of colors ▪ They chose an unusual *color scheme* for the living room.

co•los•sal /kəˈlɑːsəl/ *adj* : very large or great ▪ a *colossal* [=*gigantic*] statue ▪ Their business partnership turned out to be a *colossal* [=*massive*] failure. ▪ The meeting was a *colossal* [=*huge, enormous*] waste of time.

col•os•se•um /ˌkɑːləˈsijəm/ *noun, pl* **-ums**
1 *Colosseum* [*singular*] : an outdoor arena built in Rome in the first century A.D.
2 [*count*] *chiefly US* : a large stadium or building for sports or entertainment : COLISEUM

co•los•sus /kəˈlɑːsəs/ *noun, pl* **-los•si** /-ˈlɑːˌsaɪ/ [*count*]
1 : a huge statue ▪ an ancient Egyptian *colossus*
2 : a very large or important person or thing ▪ The building is a *colossus* of steel and glass. ▪ a corporate *colossus*

colour *Brit spelling of* COLOR

colour supplement *noun, pl* ~ **-ments** [*count*] *Brit* : a magazine printed in color that is added to a newspaper usually on a Saturday or Sunday

colt /ˈkoʊlt/ *noun, pl* **colts** [*count*]
1 : a young male horse — compare FILLY, FOAL
2 *Brit* : a member of a sports team for young people

col•um•bine /ˈkɑːləmˌbaɪn/ *noun, pl* **-bines** [*count, noncount*] : a plant that has flowers with five petals that are thin and pointed

Co•lum•bus Day /kəˈlʌmbəs-/ *noun* [*singular*] : the second Monday in October observed as a legal holiday in many states of the U.S. in honor of the arrival of Christopher Columbus in the Bahamas in 1492

col•umn /ˈkɑːləm/ *noun, pl* **-umns** [*count*]
1 : a long post made of steel, stone, etc., that is used as a support in a building ▪ a facade with marble *columns*
2 a : a group of printed or written items (such as numbers or words) shown one under the other down a page ▪ Add the first *column* of numbers. **b** : any one of two or more sections of print that appear next to each other on a page and are separated by a blank space or a line ▪ The article takes up three *columns*. ▪ The error appears at the bottom of the second *column*. — see picture at TABLE
3 : an article in a newspaper or magazine that appears regularly and that is written by a particular writer or deals with a particular subject ▪ a sports/gossip *column* ▪ She writes a weekly *column* for the paper. — see also ADVICE COLUMN
4 : something that is tall and thin in shape — often + *of* ▪ *Columns of* smoke rose from the chimneys. — see also STEERING COLUMN
5 : a long row of people or things — often + *of* ▪ a *column of* troops/cars

col•um•nist /ˈkɑːləmnɪst/ *noun, pl* **-nists** [*count*] : a person who writes a newspaper or magazine column ▪ a gossip/sports *columnist*

com /ˈkɑːm/ *abbr* commercial organization — used in an Internet address to show that it belongs to a company or business ▪ www.Merriam-Webster.*com* — compare DOT-COM

co•ma /ˈkoʊmə/ *noun, pl* **-mas** : a state in which a sick or injured person is unconscious for a long time [*count*] He went into a *coma*. ▪ She was in a *coma* for a year. [*noncount*] patients in (a state of) *coma*

Co•man•che /kəˈmæntʃi/ *noun, pl* **Comanche** *or* **Comanches** [*count*] : a member of a Native American people of the southwestern U.S.

co•ma•tose /ˈkoʊməˌtoʊs/ *adj* : in a coma ▪ She lay in a *comatose* state. ▪ *comatose* patients

[1]comb /ˈkoʊm/ *noun, pl* **combs** [*count*]
1 a : a flat piece of plastic or metal with a row of thin teeth that is used for making hair neat — see picture at GROOMING **b** : a device that is used for separating or straightening fibers (such as wool fibers)
2 : a soft part on top of the head of some birds (such as chickens) ▪ Roosters have red *combs*.
3 : HONEYCOMB
go over/through with a fine-tooth comb see FINE-TOOTH COMB

[2]comb *verb* **combs; combed; comb•ing**
1 [+ *obj*] : to smooth, arrange, or separate (hair or fibers) with a comb ▪ Go *comb* your hair. ▪ He *combed* back his hair. ▪ The wool is *combed* before being spun into yarn.
2 : to search (something) very thoroughly in order to find something [+ *obj*] We *combed* the beach for shells. [*no obj*] — usually + *through* ▪ They got the information by *combing through* old records.
comb out [*phrasal verb*] ***comb out (hair) or comb (hair) out*** : to make (hair) neat and smooth with a comb ▪ She sat in front of the mirror *combing out* her hair. ▪ Her mother *combed* the tangles *out*.

[1]com•bat /ˈkɑːmˌbæt/ *noun* [*noncount*] : active fighting especially in a war ▪ troops ready for *combat* ▪ Some of these soldiers have never seen *combat*. ▪ He was killed in *combat*. ▪ armed/unarmed *combat* — often used before another noun ▪ *combat* operations/missions ▪ *combat* boots ▪ a *combat* zone

[2]com•bat /kəmˈbæt/ *verb* **-bats; -bat•ed** *also* **-bat•ted; -bat•ing** *also* **-bat•ting** [+ *obj*]
1 : to try to stop (something) from happening or getting worse ▪ The drug helps *combat* infection. ▪ She dedicated her life to *combating* poverty. ▪ Exercise can help *combat* the effects of stress. ▪ The mayor pledged to *combat* crime.
2 *formal* : to fight against (someone) : to engage in combat against (an enemy) ▪ They have been *combating* the rebels for months.

com•bat•ant /kəmˈbætn̩t, *Brit* ˈkɒmbətənt/ *noun, pl* **-ants** [*count*] : a person, group, or country that fights in a war or battle ▪ Britain was a main/major *combatant* in World War II. — often used before another noun ▪ *combatant* ships/nations

combat fatigue *noun* [*noncount*] : BATTLE FATIGUE

com•bat•ive /kəmˈbætɪv, *Brit* ˈkɒmbətɪv/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : having or showing a willingness to fight or argue ▪ a *combative* attitude/style ▪ When the police tried to arrest him, he became *combative*.
– com•bat•ive•ness *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ a lawyer known for his *combativeness*

com•bi•na•tion /ˌkɑːmbəˈneɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**
1 [*count*] : a result or product of combining two or more things or people ▪ Water is a *combination* of hydrogen and oxygen. ▪ The car's interior is available in various/different color *combinations*. ▪ It's an unusual *combination*. ▪ A *combination* of factors led to her decision. ▪ The milkshakes come in chocolate, strawberry, and vanilla, or any *combination* of these. ▪ He has the right *combination* of talent and experience. ▪ Together on one team they are a ***winning combination***. [=they work, perform, etc., very well together]
2 : an act of combining two or more things [*count*] The *combination* of these two chemicals can cause an explosion. [*noncount*] The drugs should not be taken ***in combination***. [=should not be taken together] ▪ It can be used by itself or ***in combination with*** [=*together with*] our other products.
3 [*count*] : a particular series of numbers or letters that is used to open a lock ▪ What is the *combination* to the safe?
4 — used to describe something that can be used in more than one way ▪ The tool is a *combination* jackknife and bottle opener. ▪ The book is a *combination* dictionary and thesaurus.

combination lock *noun, pl* ~ **locks** [*count*] : a lock that can only be opened by using a particular series of numbers of letters

combination therapy *noun, pl* ~ **pies** [*count, noncount*] *medical* : the use of more than one method and especially more than one drug to treat a disease

[1]com•bine /kəmˈbaɪn/ *verb* **-bines; -bined; -bin•ing**
1 [+ *obj*] : to cause (two or more things) to be together or to work together ▪ We decided to *combine* both methods/techniques. ▪ The groups have *combined* forces to lobby for re-

form. — often + *with* ▪ The drug may be *combined with* other treatments.

2 a [+ *obj*] : to mix (two or more things) together to form a single thing ▪ *Combine* the ingredients (together) in a large bowl. ▪ *combining* oxygen and/with hydrogen **b** [*no obj*] : to come together and form a single thing or group ▪ Atoms *combine* [=*unite*] to form molecules. ▪ The two companies *combined* [=*merged*] under his leadership.



combination lock

3 [+ *obj*] : to have (two or more different things) at the same time ▪ a writer whose novels *combine* imagination and scholarship ▪ She found it difficult to *combine* a career and family. ▪ This method of payment *combines* the advantages of cash with the convenience of a check.

4 [*no obj*] : to act together ▪ Many factors *combined* to cause the recession. ▪ All of these elements *combine* to make a wonderfully entertaining movie.

[2]com•bine /ˈkɑːmˌbaɪn/ *noun, pl* **-bines** [*count*]

1 : a group of people or organizations that work together ▪ The teams belong to a *combine* that scouts new players. ▪ a political *combine*

2 : a machine that cuts crops (such as corn or wheat) and separates the seeds of the plant from the rest of the plant

com•bined /kəmˈbaɪnd/ *adj, always used before a noun*

1 : formed or produced by adding two or more things or amounts together ▪ They've raised a *combined* total of one thousand dollars. ▪ The *combined* population of the two cities is over half a million.

2 : acting together ▪ She is suffering from the *combined* effects of stress and fatigue. ▪ The company succeeded thanks to the *combined* efforts of all its employees.

combining form *noun, pl* ~ **forms** [*count*] *linguistics* : a form of a word (such as *electro-* in *electromagnetic* or *mal-* in *malodorous*) that only occurs as a part of other words

com•bo /ˈkɑːmboʊ/ *noun, pl* **-bos** [*count*]

1 : a small musical group that plays jazz or dance music ▪ a three-piece jazz *combo*

2 *informal* : a combination of different things ▪ The carpet design comes in three different color *combos*. ▪ a washer-dryer *combo* ▪ I ordered the seafood *combo*. [=a dish that includes different kinds of seafood]

com•bus•ti•ble /kəmˈbʌstəbəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : able to be burned easily ▪ *combustible* gases/materials ▪ The fuel is highly/very *combustible*. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ a *combustible* situation [=a situation in which people are angry and could become violent]

– **combustible** *noun, pl* **-tibles** [*count*] ▪ *combustibles* such as coal and gasoline

com•bus•tion /kəmˈbʌstʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] *technical*

1 : the act of burning ▪ *Combustion* may occur at high temperatures. — see also SPONTANEOUS COMBUSTION

2 *technical* : a chemical reaction that occurs when oxygen combines with other substances to produce heat and usually light ▪ This ratio of air to fuel results in better *combustion*. — see also INTERNAL COMBUSTION ENGINE

combustion chamber *noun, pl* ~ **-bers** [*count*] : a closed space inside an engine in which fuel is burned — see picture at ENGINE

[1]come /ˈkʌm/ *verb* **comes**; **came** /ˈkeɪm/; **come**; **com•ing** [*no obj*]

1 : to move toward someone or something ▪ Please *come* here for a minute. I want to show you something. ▪ Don't *come* near me. ▪ She *came* quietly into the room. ▪ He *came* home late again last night. ▪ The dog began to growl as we *came* closer. ▪ Here he *comes*. [=he is approaching us] ▪ The captain of the ship invited us to *come* aboard. ▪ The dog ***came running*** when she called it. [=the dog ran to her when she called it] ▪ If you need me I'll *come running*. [=I'll come to you very quickly]

2 : to go or travel to a place ▪ People *come* from all over the country to see him. ▪ Some people *came* by car while others *came* by plane. ▪ Why don't you *come* and/to stay with us for a while? ▪ My parents are *coming* for a visit. = My parents are *coming* to visit. ▪ I hope you'll *come* (to/and) visit us soon. ▪ About a hundred people are *coming* to the wedding. ▪ People *come* many miles to visit the shrine. ▪ They *came* very far [=they traveled a long way] to see you. ▪ My brother is ***coming down*** [=traveling south] to visit me this week, and I'll be going up to visit him next month. ▪ She lives uptown and rarely *comes down* to this part of the city. ▪ My parents are ***coming up*** [=traveling north] to visit me this weekend. ▪ She lives downtown and rarely *comes up* to this part of the city. — often used figuratively ▪ We've *come* so far [=we've made so much progress]; we can't stop now. ▪ It's remarkable to think of how far she's *come* since she started her career. — see also COME A LONG WAY (below)

3 *of mail* : to be delivered to a place ▪ Did/has the mail *come* yet? ▪ The mail *comes* every day at four o'clock. ▪ A letter *came* for you.

4 a : to have or form an opinion, attitude, etc., after time passes — followed by *to* + *verb* ▪ I didn't like him at first, but I eventually *came to regard* him as a friend. ▪ He has *come to be* considered one of the leading candidates for the job. ▪ They *came to believe* that no one would help them. ▪ She *came to be known* [=she became known] as the world's greatest dancer. ▪ The food wasn't as good as I've *come to expect*. **b** : to do something specified — followed by *to* + *verb* ▪ I don't know how he *came to acquire* the property. [=I don't know how he acquired the property] ▪ How did you *come to have* such an idea? [=what caused you to have such an idea?] ▪ How did she *come to be* there? [=why was she there?]

5 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* : to reach a specified level, part, etc. ▪ Her dress *came* (down) to her ankles. ▪ The water *came* almost up to the window.

6 [*linking verb*] : to reach a specified state or condition ▪ My shoe *came* untied. ▪ The screw *came* loose. ▪ Things will *come* [=*become*] clear if we are patient. ▪ The party suddenly ***came alive*** [=the party suddenly became lively] ▪ The rent is ***coming due*** next week. [=the rent will be due next week]

7 a : to happen or occur ▪ These changes couldn't have *come* at a better time. ▪ I promise that no harm will *come* to you. [=I promise that you will not be harmed] ▪ Her success *came* at a high price. [=she paid a high price for her success] ▪ It's important for children to learn about the people and things that *came* before us. ▪ Success didn't ***come easy*** for her. [=she did not achieve success easily] **b** : to arrive or happen after time has passed ▪ The days will be longer when spring *comes*. = *Come* spring the days will be longer. ▪ She'll be back in school *come* September. = She'll be back in school September *comes*. ▪ This war will end eventually, and when that day *comes*, we will all be profoundly thankful. ▪ The time has *come* to stop hesitating and make a decision.

8 *not used in progressive tenses, of a product that is being sold* **a** : to be available ▪ This model *comes* in several sizes. [=this model can be bought in several sizes] ▪ a product that *comes* in a variety of colors and shapes ▪ when the product first ***came on the market*** [=when the product was first being sold] **b** : to have something as a feature, quality, ability, etc. ▪ The car *comes* (equipped/complete) with air-conditioning.

9 a : to have a specified position or place in a series ▪ I don't know which *came* first. ▪ The letter D *comes* after C and before E. ▪ He cares about his job, but his family ***comes first*** [=his family is more important than his job] **b** *Brit* : to end a race or competition in a specified position ▪ Joan won the race and her sister *came* [=*finished, came in*] second.

10 *somewhat old-fashioned* **a** — used in speech as a mild way to urge someone to do something or to become less upset, angry, etc. ▪ *Come*, it's not that bad. I'm sure you'll feel better soon. ▪ ***Come now***, there's no reason to be so upset. **b** — used in speech as a mild way to show that you do not approve of or agree with what someone has said ▪ ***Come, come***. You know as well as I do that he never said that.

11 *informal + impolite* : to experience an orgasm

as . . . as they come — used to describe someone or something as very good, bad, etc. ▪ Their daughter is *as clever as they come*. [=their daughter is very clever] ▪ The movie was *as boring as they come*. [=the movie was extremely boring]

come about [*phrasal verb*] **1** : to happen ▪ Their meeting *came about* by accident/chance. ▪ I don't know how it *came about* that she overheard our conversation. **2** *of a boat or ship* : to turn to a different direction ▪ The captain gave the order to *come about*.

come a cropper see CROPPER

come across [*phrasal verb*] **1** : to seem to have a particular quality or character : to make a particular impression ▪ How did he *come across*? [=what kind of impression did he make?] — usually + *as* ▪ He *comes across as* (being) a good speaker. [=he seems to be a good speaker; people think that he is a good speaker when they hear him talk] ▪ He *came across as* a nice guy. [=he seemed to be a nice guy] **2** : to be expressed to someone ▪ She says she was trying to be helpful, but that's not what *came across* when I talked

to her. [=I did not get the feeling that she was trying to be helpful when I talked to her] ▪ Her enthusiasm really *came across* [=*came through*] when she talked about her job. [=we could see that she was really enthusiastic when she talked about her job] **3** ***come across (something or someone)*** : to meet or find (something or someone) by chance ▪ Researchers have *come across* important new evidence. ▪ As I was walking through the town, I *came across* a group of street performers. **4** *informal* : to pay money that someone wants or demands ▪ They threatened to hurt him if he doesn't *come across* (with the money).

come adrift see ADRIFT

come after [*phrasal verb*] ***come after (someone)*** : to chase (someone) : to try to find or capture (someone you want to hurt or punish) ▪ They're worried that the government might be *coming after* them.

come again *informal* — used to ask someone to repeat something that was not heard or understood clearly ▪ "Her name is Hermione." "*Come again*? I didn't quite hear you." "I said her name is Hermione."

come along [*phrasal verb*] **1** : to go somewhere with someone ▪ They asked me to *come along* (with them) on the trip. [=they asked me to go with them on the trip] ▪ I'm going to the museum tomorrow. Would you like to *come along*? **2** : to make progress : to get better or to proceed in a desired way ▪ The project started slowly, but now the work is *coming along*. : to proceed in a specified way ▪ The work is *coming along* well. ▪ The investigation is *coming along* slowly, and there's still a lot more work to be done. **3** : to happen or appear as someone or something that might be used, chosen, etc. ▪ She says she won't just marry the first man that *comes along*. ▪ An opportunity like this doesn't *come along* [=*occur*] too often.

come a long way **1** : to rise to a much higher level of success : to become very successful ▪ He's *come a long way* from his days as a young reporter. Now he's one of the country's most respected journalists. **2** : to make a great amount of progress ▪ Medicine has *come a long way* in recent years.

come and go **1** — used to talk about time that has passed ▪ More than a hundred years have *come and gone* since the day of that famous battle. **2** — used to talk about people who appear and then leave as time passes ▪ She's seen a lot of employees *come and go* during her time in the company. ▪ Politicians *come and go*. They all seem pretty much the same to me.

come apart : to break into parts or pieces ▪ an old house that is ***coming apart at the seams*** [=an old house that is in very bad condition] — often used figuratively ▪ a coalition that is *coming apart* ▪ Their marriage is *coming apart at the seams*. [=their marriage is failing]

come around *or chiefly Brit* ***come round*** [*phrasal verb*] **1** : to start to accept and support something (such as an idea) after opposing it : to stop opposing or disagreeing with something or someone ▪ She still says she won't support us, but she'll *come around* eventually. [=she'll support us eventually] — often + *to* ▪ She'll *come around to* our side eventually. ▪ People are starting to *come around to* the idea. **2** : to become conscious ▪ He took a bad fall and knocked himself out. When he *came around* [=*woke up*, *came to*], he didn't remember what had happened. **3** : to go to visit someone ▪ Why don't you *come around* [=*come over*] (to my house) after work today? **4** : to occur in the usual way as time passes ▪ I always feel a little sad when the end of the school year *comes around*. — see also *what goes around comes around* at [1]GO **5** *of a boat or ship* : to turn to a different direction ▪ The sailboat *came around* [=*came about*] and began to head east.

come as — used to describe the effect that something has when people first learn about it ▪ Their decision *came as* a surprise (to me). [=their decision was a surprise to me] ▪ It should *come as* no surprise that many people oppose the plan. ▪ It *came as* a shock to me [=I was shocked] to see how old he looks now. ▪ The news of her recovery *came as* a great relief to all of us.

come at [*phrasal verb*] **1** ***come at (someone)*** **a** : to move toward (someone) in a threatening or aggressive way ▪ They kept *coming at* me. **b** : to be directed at or toward (someone) ▪ The questions kept *coming at* him so quickly that he didn't know how to respond to them. **2** ***come at (something)*** : to begin to deal with or think about (something) ▪ We need to *come at* [=*approach*] these problems from a different angle.

come away from [*phrasal verb*] ***come away from (something)*** : to move away from (an area, place, etc.) ▪ The guard told him to *come away from* the door. — often used figuratively ▪ Most readers *come away from* the book feeling reassured. [=most readers feel reassured when they finish the book] ▪ It was a difficult experience, but she *came away from* it a stronger and more confident person.

come back [*phrasal verb*] **1** : to return to a place ▪ I hope you'll *come back* and see us again soon. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ a decision that may ***come back to haunt us*** [=a decision that may cause problems for us in the future] **2 a** : to return to a former good condition : to become strong, successful, or effective again after a time of weakness, failure, etc. ▪ It can be difficult for an athlete to *come back* [=*recover*] from an injury like this. ▪ a species that was nearly extinct but that has been *coming back* **b** : to become popular or fashionable again ▪ Short skirts were out of fashion for many years, but now they're *coming back*. **c** : to be successful in a game, sport, etc., after being behind ▪ The team was trailing after the first half, but they *came back* and won in the second half. **3** : to return to someone's memory — usually + *to* ▪ I had forgotten a lot of what I learned about music, but it's all *coming back to* me now. [=I am beginning to remember it now] **4** : to make a reply or response — usually + *with* ▪ When questioned about his involvement, he *came back with* an angry denial. — see also COMEBACK

come between [*phrasal verb*] ***come between (people or groups)*** : to cause disagreement between (people or groups) ▪ We shouldn't let these problems *come between* us.

come by [*phrasal verb*] **1** : to make a visit to someone ▪ Why don't you *come by* [=*come over*] for a while after dinner? **2** ***come by (something)*** : to get or acquire (something) ▪ I asked him how he *came by* the money, but he wouldn't tell me. ▪ A good job is ***hard to come by***. [=it's hard to get a good job]

come cheap see [2]CHEAP

come clean see [1]CLEAN

come close see [3]CLOSE

come down [*phrasal verb*] **1 a** : to move or fall downward ▪ The crowd erupted in applause as the curtain *came down*. ▪ One of the tree's branches *came down* during the storm. **b** *of rain, snow, etc.* : to fall from the sky ▪ She stood at the window, watching the rain *come down*. ▪ The rain was *coming down* in sheets. [=it was raining very heavily] **2** : to go to a lower level ▪ Stock prices have continued to *come down* [=*fall*] this week. = Stocks have continued to *come down* in price this week. ▪ It's sad to see how he has ***come down in the world***. [=how he has fallen to a lower position or status after being wealthy, successful, etc.] — see also COMEDOWN **3** : to decide or say in an official or public way that you support or oppose someone or something ▪ The committee ***came down in favor of*** the proposal. = The committee ***came down on the side of*** the proposal. [=the committee approved the proposal] ▪ Some of his former supporters have ***come down against*** him. **4** ✧ An announcement or decision that ***comes down*** is an announcement or decision from someone who has power or authority. ▪ Word *came down* that the strike was over. ▪ The decision *came down* in his favor. **5** ✧ Something that ***comes down from*** the past is something that has existed for a very long time. ▪ This is a story that has *come down* from ancient times. **6** *informal* : to stop feeling the effect of an illegal drug : to stop being high on a drug ▪ an addict who is *coming down* from heroin

come down on [*phrasal verb*] **1** ***come down on (someone)*** : to criticize or punish (someone) ▪ The governor has promised to ***come down hard on*** corrupt officials. [=to severely punish corrupt officials] ▪ Her boss *came down on* her pretty hard when she didn't finish the report on time. **2** ***come down on (something)*** : to make a strong effort to stop or oppose (something) ▪ The governor has promised to *come down hard on* corruption.

come down to [*phrasal verb*] ***come down to (something)*** : to have (something) as the most important part ▪ People talk about various reasons for the company's failure, but it all *comes down to* one thing: a lack of leadership. ▪ The election is going to *come down to* which candidate seems most trustworthy to the voters. [=the candidate who seems most trustworthy will win the election] ▪ It's nice to be rich, but ***when you come (right) down to it***, it's more important to be healthy and happy.

come down with [*phrasal verb*] ***come down with (an illness)***

: to begin to have or suffer from (an illness) ▪ She *came down with* [=*contracted*] measles. ▪ I think I may be *coming down with* [=*getting, catching*] a cold.

come forward [*phrasal verb*] : to say openly or publicly that you are the person who should get something or who can do something ▪ No one has yet *come forward* to claim the reward. ▪ Several people *came forward* to offer their assistance.

come from [*phrasal verb*] **1 *come from (something)*** **a** : to have (a specified origin or source) ▪ Wine *comes from* grapes. [=wine is made from grapes] ▪ English words *come from* a wide variety of sources. **b** — used to describe a person's family ▪ She *comes from* a wealthy family. [=her family is wealthy] ▪ He *comes from* a long line of entertainers. [=the people in his family have been entertainers for many years] **c** : to be the result of (something) ▪ I'm not surprised that you don't feel well. That's what *comes from* not eating the right kinds of food. **2 *come from (a place)*** : to be from (a place): such as **a** *of a person* : to have been born or raised in (a place) ▪ She *comes* (originally) *from* a small southern town. : to live in (a place) ▪ The people who attend the convention *come from* countries all around the world. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ (*informal*) I understand where you're *coming from*. [=I understand why you feel or think the way you do; I understand your point of view] **b** *of a thing* : to be produced in (a place) ▪ Where did this wine *come from*? [=where is this wine from?] ▪ There was a bad smell *coming from* the basement. ▪ A sob *came from* her throat. [=she sobbed] **3 *come from (someone)*** : to be said or told by (someone) ▪ This information *comes from* a person I trust. ▪ (*informal*) Those comments are pretty surprising, ***coming from you***. [=it is surprising that you would make those comments]

come full circle see FULL CIRCLE

come hell or high water see HELL

come home to see [2]HOME

come in [*phrasal verb*] **1 a** : to enter a place ▪ Welcome. Please *come in*. **b** : to arrive at a place ▪ The store will have some exciting new products *coming in* next week. **2** : to be received ▪ The election results should start *coming in* soon. [=we should start receiving/getting the election results soon] ▪ The broadcast was *coming in* loud and clear. [=we could hear the broadcast very clearly] **3** : to end a race or competition in a specified position ▪ Joan won the race and her sister *came in* [=*finished*] second. ▪ He *came in* first/last. **4** : to have a particular role or function ▪ We're going to need someone to help with the cooking, and ***that's where you come in***. [=your job will be to help us with the cooking] **5** ✧ Something that ***comes in handy*** or (less commonly) ***comes in useful/helpful*** turns out to be useful when it is needed. ▪ A pocketknife can *come in handy*. ▪ A little extra money would *come in useful* right now.

come in/into bloom *or* ***come into flower*** *of a plant* : to begin to produce flowers : to start to bloom ▪ in early spring, when the forsythias are *coming into bloom* ▪ The lilacs have begun to *come into flower*.

come in for [*phrasal verb*] ***come in for (something)*** : to get or be given (something unpleasant, such as criticism) : to be subjected to (something) ▪ The government's policies are *coming in for* increasing criticism. [=more people are beginning to criticize the government's policies]

come in from the cold see [2]COLD

come in on [*phrasal verb*] ***come in on (something)*** *informal* : to become involved in (something) ▪ He says he'd like to *come in* (with us) *on* the deal.

come into [*phrasal verb*] ***come into (something)*** **1** : to enter (a place) ▪ Everyone watched her as she *came into* the room. **2** : to get (something) as a possession ▪ He *came into* a fortune when he inherited his father's estate. **3** : to be involved in (something) ▪ Deciding who to hire should be a business decision. You shouldn't allow personal feelings to *come into* it. [=you shouldn't allow personal feelings to affect your decision]

come into effect see [1]EFFECT

come into your own : to begin to have the kind of success that you are capable of having : to become very skillful, successful, etc. ▪ She has really started to *come into her own* recently. ▪ The company was struggling for many months, but now it really seems to be *coming into its own*.

come in/into view/sight : to appear : to begin to be seen ▪ Another ship suddenly *came into view*. ▪ As we turned the corner, the distant mountains *came in sight*.

come naturally see NATURALLY

come of [*phrasal verb*] ***come of (something)*** : to be the result of (something) ▪ the excitement that *comes of* meeting people who share your interests ▪ They had discussions about possible new products, but ***nothing came of it***. [=no new products resulted from their discussions]

come of age see [1]AGE

come off [*phrasal verb*] **1 *come off* or *come off (something)*** : to stop being attached to something ▪ When I tried to pick up the suitcase, the handle *came off*. = The handle *came off* the suitcase. **2** : to produce a desired result : to succeed ▪ His plans to start his own business never *came off*. **3** : to happen ▪ The meeting *came off* as scheduled. [=the meeting happened when it was scheduled to happen] **4** : to do or perform well or badly ▪ She *came off* well in the contest. ▪ He *came off* badly/poorly in the debate. **5** : to seem to have a specified quality or character — usually + *as* ▪ He's really just shy, but he *comes off as* a little arrogant. [=he seems a little arrogant] ▪ He *came off as* a stuffy old man. **6 *come off (something)*** **a** *US* : to have recently completed or recovered from (something) ▪ a company that is *coming off* a very successful year ▪ an athlete who is *coming off* a serious injury **b** : to have recently stopped using (an illegal drug) ▪ an addict who is *coming off* heroin **7** *US, informal* — used in phrases like ***where do you come off?*** to express anger or annoyance at what someone has said or done ▪ *Where do you come off* talking to me like that? [=you have no right to talk to me like that; how dare you talk to me like that?] ▪ I ***don't know where he comes off*** making those kinds of accusations. [=he has no right to make those kinds of accusations]

come off it *informal* : to stop talking or acting in a foolish way — usually used as an interjection ▪ "I could be a pro golfer if I really tried." "Oh, *come off it*! You're not even close to being that good!"

come on [*phrasal verb*] **1 a** : to happen or progress as time passes ▪ Darkness *came on* rapidly/gradually [=it rapidly/gradually became dark] as the sun went down. **b** : to begin to happen ▪ Rain *came on* toward noon. [=it began to rain when it was almost noon] ▪ I feel a headache *coming on*. ▪ It looks like it might be ***coming on to rain***. [=it looks like it might start to rain soon] **2 a** *of an electrical machine, light, etc.* : to begin to work or function ▪ The lights *came on* briefly and then went out again. **b** *of a TV or radio program* : to start ▪ That program you like is *coming on* in a few minutes. **3** *informal* **a** — used in speech to ask or urge someone to do something ▪ "I don't feel like going out tonight." "Oh, *come on*! It'll do you good to get out of the house for a while." ▪ "I don't think I can go any further." "*Come on*! You can do it if you keep trying!" **b** — used in speech to tell someone to hurry or to go faster ▪ *Come on*, let's go. **c** — used in speech to express surprise, disbelief, etc. ▪ "I think she could win the election." "*Come on*! She doesn't have a chance!" **4** : to have or seem to have a certain quality or nature ▪ He *comes on* [=*comes across*] as a conservative.

come on strong **1** : to be very forceful or too forceful in talking to someone or dealing with someone ▪ She didn't like him because she felt that he *came on* too *strong*. **2** : to become stronger or more successful in a continuing contest, race, etc. ▪ The team was playing poorly in the early part of the season, but it has been *coming on strong* lately. ▪ a political candidate who has been *coming on strong* in the polls as the day of election draws closer

come on to [*phrasal verb*] **1 *come on to (someone)*** *informal* : to show sexual interest in (someone) : to try to start a sexual relationship with (someone) ▪ She complained that her boss has been *coming on to* her. **2 *come on to (something)*** *Brit* : to start to talk about or deal with (something) ▪ We'll *come on to* [=*come to, get to*] that question later.

come out [*phrasal verb*] **1** : to become available : to begin to be produced or sold ▪ A new magazine is *coming out* next week. ▪ The book/movie *comes out* next month. **2 a** : to become obvious : to be clearly shown ▪ His pride *came out* in his refusal to accept help. [=his refusal to accept help showed his pride] **b** : to become known ▪ The truth finally *came out*. [=people finally learned the truth] ▪ It *came out* that he had known about these problems all along, but he hadn't said anything. **3** : to say something openly ▪ Why don't you just *come out* and say what you really think? **4** : to say publicly that you support or oppose someone or something ▪ She ***came out in favor of*** the proposal. ▪ Some of his former supporters have ***come out against*** him. **5** : to say openly that you are a homosexual

C

▪ Many gay entertainers have been reluctant to *come out*. ▪ Last year she *came out* (as a lesbian) to her parents. [=she told her parents that she is a lesbian] **6 a :** to appear after being hidden ▪ The rain stopped and the sun/moon/stars *came out* as the clouds cleared away. **:** to appear in the open ▪ animals that only *come out* at night **b** *of a flower* **:** to open **:** to blossom ▪ in the spring, when the flowers are beginning to *come out* (in bloom) **7 a :** to end or finish in a specified way ▪ How did the game *come out*? [=*turn out*] [=who won the game?] ▪ Everything *came out* [=*ended up, turned out*] all right. ▪ She expects to *come out* ahead in the end. ▪ He's confident that he'll *come out* a winner. ▪ He's confident that he'll ***come out on top*** [=that he'll win] when all the votes have been counted. **b** *of a photograph* **:** to produce a good picture ▪ Those pictures I took at the game yesterday didn't *come out*. **c** — used to describe the quality that something has when it is finished ▪ The picture *came out* blurry. ▪ The brownies *came out* a little too dry. **8 :** to be said, expressed, or understood in a particular way ▪ That's not what I meant to say. It didn't *come out* right. ▪ He was trying to make a joke, but it *came out* wrong.

come out of [*phrasal verb*] ***come out of (something)*** **1 :** to result from (something) ▪ It's hard to see how anything good can *come out of* this. **2 :** to go through the experience of (something) ▪ I was lucky to *come out of* [=*come through*] the accident alive. **3** ✧ To ***come out of nowhere*** is to be very surprising and unexpected or to become successful, popular, etc., in a very sudden and surprising way. ▪ That question *came out of nowhere*. ▪ a company that has *come out of nowhere* to become one of the leaders in the industry — see also *come out of left field* at LEFT FIELD

come out with [*phrasal verb*] ***come out with (something)*** **1 :** to say or express (something, such as an idea) ▪ She *came out with* a new proposal. ▪ He's always saying ridiculous things. You never know what he'll *come out with* next. ▪ Why don't you just *come out with* it and say what you really think? **2 :** to publish or produce (something that will be sold to the public) ▪ a publisher that is *coming out with* a new series of children's books ▪ a car company that is *coming out with* several new models next year

come over [*phrasal verb*] **1 :** to make a social visit to someone ▪ Why don't you *come over* [=*come around*] (to my place) after work? **2 :** to change from one side to the other in a disagreement, competition, etc. — usually + *to* ▪ I've been trying to persuade her to *come over to* our side, but I haven't convinced her yet. **3** *Brit, informal* **:** BECOME ▪ He suddenly *came over* all bashful. [=he suddenly became very bashful] **4 *come over (someone)*** **:** to affect (someone) in a sudden and strong way ▪ A sudden feeling of dread *came over* me. [=I felt a sudden feeling of dread] ▪ He's behaving so strangely. I don't know what's *come over* him lately. [=I don't know what has caused him to behave so strangely]

come round see COME AROUND (above)

come through [*phrasal verb*] **1 :** to succeed in doing something **:** to do what is needed or expected ▪ an athlete who is known for *coming through* in the clutch ▪ "I managed to get the tickets." "Great! I knew you'd *come through*." **2 a :** to be received and understood ▪ The message *came through* loud and clear. ▪ The signal wasn't *coming through*. [=we weren't receiving the signal] **b :** to be expressed to someone ▪ Her enthusiasm really *came through* [=*came across*] when she talked about her job. [=we could see that she was really enthusiastic when she talked about her job] **3 :** to be given or made official in a formal and final way ▪ We're still waiting for approval of our loan application to *come through*. **4 *come through (something)*** **:** to have the experience of living through (something) ▪ It was a very difficult illness, but he *came through* it in pretty good shape.

come to [*phrasal verb*] **1 :** to become conscious ▪ He took a bad fall and knocked himself out. When he *came to* [=*woke up, came around*], he didn't remember what had happened. **2 *come to (something)*** **a :** to reach (a place) while traveling ▪ We *came to* a fork in the road. **b :** to reach (a particular point or step in a process) ▪ Deciding to buy a new car was easy. Now we *come to* the hard part: finding the money. ▪ I can't believe that it has *come to* this. **c :** to approach or reach (a specified condition) ▪ The water *came* slowly *to* a boil. [=the water slowly began to boil] ▪ The project suddenly ***came to a stop/halt***. [=the project suddenly stopped] ▪ The work has finally ***come to an end***. [=has finally ended] — see also *come to a bad end* at ¹END **d :** to result in (something) — usually used in negative statements ▪ His ambitious plans never *came to* much. ▪ She talked about learning to fly, but it all ***came to nothing*** in the end. [=she never did learn to fly] **e :** to make or reach (something, such as a decision or an agreement) after thinking or talking ▪ The two sides finally *came to* an agreement/understanding after many hours of discussion. ▪ I've been thinking about what to do next, and I've *come to* a decision. [=I've made a decision] ▪ I've ***come to the conclusion*** [=I've decided] that we need to try a different method. **3** ✧ People say that they ***don't know what the world is coming to*** or they ask ***What is the world coming to?*** when they are shocked or disgusted by something that has happened in the world. ▪ I *don't know what the world is coming to* when so many poor children have to go to bed hungry every night. **4** ✧ The phrase ***when it comes to*** is used to identify the specific topic that is being talked about. ▪ *When it comes to* playing chess, he's the best I know. **5** ✧ The phrase ***if it comes to that*** means "if that is necessary." ▪ I'm willing to pay more money *if it comes to that*. **6 *come to (an amount)*** **:** to produce (an amount) when added together ▪ The bill *came to* [=*amounted to*] 10 dollars. **7 *come to (someone)*** **:** to be thought of by (someone) **:** to occur to (someone) ▪ The answer suddenly *came to* me. [=I suddenly thought of the answer] **8** ✧ Something that is ***coming to*** you is something that is owed to you. ▪ I have another dollar *coming to* me. [=I am owed another dollar] ▪ He wants all the credit that's *coming to* him. [=he wants all the credit that he deserves] ✧ If you ***get what's coming to you***, you get the punishment that you deserve. ▪ He's a dirty cheat, and I'm going to see that he *gets what coming to him*. ✧ If you ***have it coming (to you)*** you deserve to get something bad, such as punishment. ▪ I'm not sorry to hear that he lost his job. He *had it coming*.

come to blows see ³BLOW

come together [*phrasal verb*] **1 :** to join or meet ▪ the place where two rivers *come together* **2 :** to form a group ▪ People from many different areas have *come together* to try to find a solution. **3 :** to begin to work or proceed in the desired way ▪ The project started slowly, but everything is finally starting to *come together* now.

come to grief see GRIEF

come to grips with see ²GRIP

come to life see ¹LIFE

come to light see ¹LIGHT

come to mind see ¹MIND

come to pass *formal + literary* **:** to happen ▪ Many of the things he predicted have *come to pass*.

come to rest see ²REST

come to terms see ¹TERM

come to think of it — used in speech to say that you have just remembered or thought of something ▪ The meeting is next Tuesday, which, *come to think of it*, is also the date of my doctor's appointment.

come to your senses see ¹SENSE

come true see ¹TRUE

come under [*phrasal verb*] ***come under (something)*** **1 :** to be subjected to (something) ▪ The troops were resting when they suddenly *came under* attack. [=when they were suddenly attacked] ▪ His policies have been *coming under* attack/criticism/fire from conservatives. [=conservatives have been attacking/criticizing his policies] ▪ Many people feel that their civil rights are *coming under* threat. [=are being threatened] ▪ Some of the governor's recent proposals are now *coming under* increased scrutiny. [=people are now looking more closely and critically at the proposals] ▪ The school is *coming under* pressure to change its policies. **2 :** to be affected, controlled, or influenced by (something) ▪ an area that has *come under* the control of rebel forces [=an area that is now controlled by rebel forces] ▪ He was 30 years old when he first *came under* the care of a psychiatrist. [=when he first began to be treated by a psychiatrist] ▪ Many young people have *come under* his influence. [=many young people have been influenced by him] ▪ areas that *come under* his authority **3** — used to identify the group or category that something belongs to ▪ These matters *come under* the heading of classified information.

come up [*phrasal verb*] **1 :** to move near to someone or something **:** to approach someone or something ▪ He *came* (right) *up* (to me) and introduced himself. **2 a :** to be mentioned or thought of ▪ That issue never *came up*. [=*arose*] ▪ A question has *come up* about the budget. ▪ I was surprised when his name *came up* as a possible candidate for the job. **b :** to occur in usually a sudden or unexpected way ▪ She seems to be ready to deal with any problem

that may *come up*. [=*arise*] ▪ Something has *come up* and I won't be able to attend the meeting. ▪ We need to be ready to take action if an opportunity *comes up*. **3** *of the sun or moon* : to become visible in the sky : to rise ▪ She was already awake when the sun *came up*. **4** *of a plant* : to first appear above the ground ▪ in the spring, when the daffodils and tulips are *coming up* **5** : to finish in a specified condition or state ▪ I flipped the coin and it *came up* heads/tails. ▪ The shot ***came up short***. [=the shot did not go far enough] **6** : to move up in rank or status ▪ an officer who ***came up from/through the ranks*** [=who started as an ordinary soldier and rose to become an officer] **7** ✧ Something that is ***coming up*** will happen soon or will appear soon. ▪ With the election *coming up*, both candidates are spending all their time on the campaign trail. ▪ Our interview with the mayor is *coming* (right) *up* after this commercial. ▪ "I'd like a turkey sandwich and a glass of lemonade, please." "***Coming right up***!" [=the sandwich and lemonade will be served to you very quickly]

come up against [*phrasal verb*] ***come up against (something)*** : to be stopped or slowed by (something) ▪ The proposal has *come up against* some opposition. [=there is some opposition to the proposal]

come up empty : to fail to get or find something or someone ▪ The police searched the area for clues but *came up empty*. [=they did not find any clues]

come upon [*phrasal verb*] *somewhat formal* **1 *come upon (someone or something)*** : to meet or find (someone or something) by chance ▪ As they turned the corner, they *came upon* an unexpected scene. ▪ While researching the town's history, she *came upon* some surprising new information about its first mayor. **2 *come upon (someone)*** *of a feeling* : to affect (someone) suddenly ▪ An urge to travel suddenly *came upon* him. [=he suddenly felt an urge to travel]

come up to [*phrasal verb*] ***come up to (something)*** : to be as good as (something) ▪ The movie didn't *come up to* our expectations. [=was not as good as we expected it to be]

come up with [*phrasal verb*] ***come up with (something)*** : to get or think of (something that is needed or wanted) ▪ We finally *came up with* a solution (to our problem). ▪ He *came up with* an interesting new method of improving the factory's efficiency. ▪ He'll be in a lot of trouble if he doesn't *come up with* the money he owes.

come what may : regardless of what happens ▪ He promised to support her, *come what may*.

easy come, easy go see ²EASY

first come, first served see ²FIRST

how come see ¹HOW

to come : existing or arriving in the future ▪ No one knows what will happen in the days *to come*. ▪ There will be more trouble *to come*.

²come *noun* [*noncount*] *impolite* : SEMEN

come•back /ˈkʌmˌbæk/ *noun, pl* **-backs** [*count*]
1 a : a return to a former good position or condition ▪ The species was nearly extinct but is now ***making/staging a comeback***. **b** : a return to being popular or fashionable ▪ Short skirts were out of fashion for many years, but now they're ***making/staging a comeback***. **c** : a new effort to win or succeed after being close to defeat or failure ▪ The team was trailing after the first half, but they ***made/staged a comeback*** and won in the second half. ▪ The team ***mounted a comeback*** in the second half of the season.
2 : a quick reply or response ▪ She seemed to have a clever *comeback* [=*retort*] for everything I said. — see also *come back* at ¹COME

co•me•di•an /kəˈmiːdijən/ *noun, pl* **-ans** [*count*]
1 : a person who performs in front of an audience and makes people laugh by telling jokes or funny stories or by acting in a way that is funny : an actor who plays roles that make people laugh
2 : a person who is funny or makes people laugh ▪ You'll like my friend. He's a real *comedian*.

co•me•dic /kəˈmiːdɪk/ *adj, always used before a noun* [*more ~; most ~*] : of, relating to, or like a comedy ▪ She has a lot of *comedic* talent. ▪ a drama with *comedic* elements

co•me•di•enne /kəˌmiːdiˈɛn/ *noun, pl* **-ennes** [*count*] : a woman who is a comedian

come•down /ˈkʌmˌdaʊn/ *noun, pl* **-downs** [*count*] : a situation in which a person falls to a lower level of importance, popularity, etc. : a fall in status or position ▪ For a man who was once a very popular actor, working in a nightclub is quite a *comedown*. — see also *come down* 2 at ¹COME

com•e•dy /ˈkɑːmədi/ *noun, pl* **-dies**
1 [*count*] : a play, movie, television program, novel, etc., that is meant to make people laugh ▪ The new *comedy* is the network's most popular television show. — see also MUSICAL COMEDY, SITUATION COMEDY
2 [*noncount*] : things that are done and said to make an audience laugh : comic entertainment ▪ The movie includes a lot of physical *comedy*. ▪ She had always dreamed of a career in *comedy*. [=a career as a comedian] — often used before another noun ▪ *comedy* clubs ▪ a *comedy* show
3 [*noncount*] : the funny or amusing part of something : HUMOR ▪ We couldn't help laughing out loud at the *comedy* of the situation.

comedy of manners *noun, pl* **comedies of manners** [*count*] : a humorous play, movie, novel, etc., about the way a particular group of people behave

come–hith•er /kəmˈhɪðə/ *adj, always used before a noun* : attracting someone especially in a sexual way ▪ She gave him a *come-hither* look.

come•ly /ˈkʌmli/ *adj* **-li•er; -est** [*also more ~; most ~*] *old-fashioned + literary* : pleasing in appearance : pretty or attractive — used to describe a girl or woman ▪ a *comely* young lady

come–on /ˈkʌmˌɑːn/ *noun, pl* **-ons** [*count*]
1 *informal* : something that a person says or does to try to start a sexual relationship with someone ▪ When he told her she looked familiar, she assumed it was just a *come-on* and ignored him. — see also *come on to* at ¹COME
2 : something that is done to get customers for a business ▪ This special sale is a *come-on* to bring in new customers.

com•er /ˈkʌmə/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]
1 a : a person who goes to a place to take part in an activity — usually plural ▪ The class is open to all *comers*. **b** : a person who arrives at a place ▪ We're giving free T-shirts away to the first *comers*. — see also LATECOMER, NEWCOMER
2 *US, informal* : someone who is making progress quickly and is likely to be successful ▪ She's regarded as a *comer* in political circles. ▪ a young *comer*

com•et /ˈkɑːmət/ *noun, pl* **-ets** [*count*] : an object in outer space that develops a long, bright tail when it passes near the sun

come•up•pance /kəmˈʌpəns/ *noun* [*singular*] : punishment that someone deserves to receive ▪ One of these days, he'll ***get his comeuppance*** for treating people so arrogantly.

¹com•fort /ˈkʌmfət/ *noun, pl* **-forts**
1 [*noncount*] : a state or situation in which you are relaxed and do not have any physically unpleasant feelings caused by pain, heat, cold, etc. ▪ These boots provide warmth and *comfort* in the coldest temperatures. ▪ The car's seats are designed for *comfort*. ▪ The suites combine *comfort* with convenience. ▪ The drug gave some *comfort* to the patient. ▪ I found a cozy chair where I could read ***in comfort***. ▪ We like to watch movies ***in the comfort of our own home***. [=in our own home where we can relax and be comfortable]
2 [*noncount*] : a state or feeling of being less worried, upset, frightened, etc., during a time of trouble or emotional pain ▪ He turned to her for *comfort* and support when he lost his job. ▪ We found little/no *comfort* in their words. [=their words did not make us feel better] ▪ If it is any *comfort* to you, I've made the same mistake myself. = It might give you *comfort* to know that I've made the same mistake myself. ▪ I ***take comfort*** in the knowledge that I'm not alone. [=I feel less worried/upset because I know that I am not alone] — see also COLD COMFORT
3 [*count*] : a person or thing that makes someone feel less worried, upset, frightened, etc. ▪ They were great *comforts* to each other during that difficult time. — usually singular ▪ Her grandchildren were always a great *comfort* to her. ▪ It's a *comfort* to know that you are nearby.
4 *comforts* [*plural*] : the things that make you more comfortable and that make your life easier and more pleasant ▪ domestic *comforts* ▪ a country inn with all ***the comforts of home*** — see also CREATURE COMFORT
5 [*noncount*] : a state or situation in which you have all the money and possessions that you need ▪ They lived a life of *comfort* and ease.

too close for comfort *also* ***too near for comfort*** ✧ Something or someone that is *too close/near for comfort* is close enough to make you feel nervous, worried, or upset. ▪ That bus came a little *too close for comfort*! ▪ When we went out for drinks together, I realized we were getting *too close for*

comfort. [=we were getting closer than I wanted to be]

[2]comfort *verb* **-forts**; **-fort•ed**; **-fort•ing** [+ *obj*] : to cause (someone) to feel less worried, upset, frightened, etc. : to give comfort to (someone) ▪ She did her best to *comfort* [=*console*] the crying child. ▪ Our family was *comforted* by the outpouring of support from the community. ▪ We can *comfort* ourselves with the thought that the worst is over. – **comforting** *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ Knowing that I can rely on your help is a *comforting* thought. = It is *comforting* to know that I can rely on your help. – **com•fort•ing•ly** *adv* ▪ a *comfortingly* familiar face

com•fort•able /ˈkʌmftəbəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 a : not causing any physically unpleasant feelings : producing physical comfort ▪ a *comfortable* chair/bed ▪ a *comfortable* home ▪ *comfortable* clothes ▪ a *comfortable* temperature ▪ These shoes aren't very *comfortable* for walking. ▪ I can't seem to find a *comfortable* position in this chair. **b** *not used before a noun* : not having any physically unpleasant feelings : experiencing physical comfort ▪ Are you *comfortable* enough in that chair? ▪ The nurse turned the patient on his side and asked him if he was *comfortable*. ▪ I was just getting *comfortable* when the phone rang.

2 a : allowing you to be relaxed : causing no worries, difficulty, or uncertainty ▪ a *comfortable* routine ▪ They stayed at a *comfortable* distance from the crowd. ▪ She walked along at a *comfortable* [=*easy*] pace. ▪ The team has a *comfortable* 6–0 lead. [=a large lead that makes a victory seem certain] ▪ It was a *comfortable* victory. [=an easy victory that was never in doubt] **b** : feeling relaxed and happy : not worried or troubled ▪ He is most *comfortable* working outdoors. [=working outdoors suits him best] — often + *with* ▪ I'm not very *comfortable with* the idea of flying. ▪ I felt *comfortable* with her as soon as I met her. [=it was easy to talk and do things together]

3 : having or providing enough money for everything you need to live well ▪ He has a *comfortable* job/income. ▪ She makes a *comfortable* living as a journalist. ▪ They enjoy a *comfortable* lifestyle.

– **com•fort•ably** /ˈkʌmftəbli/ *adv* ▪ The suit fits *comfortably*. ▪ Is everyone seated *comfortably*? ▪ They have enough money to live *comfortably*. = They are ***comfortably off***.

com•fort•er /ˈkʌmfətə/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

1 : someone who helps you to feel less worried, upset, frightened, etc. : someone who comforts you ▪ He was her longtime confidant and *comforter*.

2 *US* : a thick bed covering that is filled with a soft light material (such as feathers) ▪ a down *comforter* — see picture at BED

comfort food *noun, pl* ~ **foods** : food that is satisfying because it is prepared in a simple or traditional way and reminds you of home, family, or friends [*count*] Pot roast and fried chicken are my favorite *comfort foods*. [*noncount*] a restaurant that serves *comfort food*

comfort zone *noun, pl* ~ **zones** [*count*] : a place, situation, or level where someone feels confident and comfortable ▪ He pushes the players to perform beyond their *comfort zone*. ▪ I need to expand my *comfort zone* and try new things.

com•fy /ˈkʌmfi/ *adj* **-fi•er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~] *informal* : physically comfortable ▪ a big, *comfy* armchair ▪ Is everybody *comfy*?

[1]com•ic /ˈkɑ:mɪk/ *adj*

1 : of or relating to a comedy ▪ a *comic* actor/writer

2 : causing laughter or amusement ▪ a *comic* monologue ▪ The drama has some *comic* moments. ▪ His *comic* timing is impeccable. ▪ The scene was included for *comic* effect.

[2]comic *noun, pl* **-ics**

1 [*count*] : a person who performs in front of an audience and makes people laugh by telling jokes or funny stories or by acting in a funny way : COMEDIAN ▪ a talented *comic*

2 *US* **a** [*count*] : COMIC STRIP — sometimes used before another noun ▪ the *comic* section of the newspaper **b** ***the comics*** : the comic strips in a newspaper : the part of a newspaper that has comic strips ▪ Did you read *the comics* [=*the funnies*] today?

3 [*count*] *chiefly Brit* : COMIC BOOK

com•i•cal /ˈkɑ:mɪkəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : causing laughter especially by being unusual or unexpected ▪ a *comical* performance ▪ I must have looked *comical* in that big hat. ▪ The way they argue is almost *comical*. ▪ There's nothing *comical* [=*funny*] about someone getting hurt. – **com•i•cal•ly** *adv* ▪ *comically* inappropriate remarks

comic book *noun, pl* ~ **books** [*count*] : a magazine that is made up of a series of comic strips — often used as *comic-book* before another noun ▪ *comic-book* heroes

comic strip *noun, pl* ~ **strips** [*count*] : a series of cartoon drawings that tell a story or part of a story



comic strip

[1]com•ing /ˈkʌmɪŋ/ *adj, always used before a noun*

1 : happening soon or next ▪ The company has many plans for the *coming* year. ▪ An official announcement will be made in the *coming* days.

2 : becoming more important or popular ▪ new technology that's considered the *coming* [=*up-and-coming*] thing/trend in the industry

coming attraction see ATTRACTION

[2]coming *noun, pl* **-ings** [*count*] : the time when something begins — usually singular ▪ We eagerly awaited the *coming* [=*arrival*] of spring. — see also SECOND COMING

comings and goings : the activity of people arriving at and leaving a place ▪ He sat in the café watching the *comings and goings* of the customers.

coming–of–age *noun* [*noncount*] : the time when a person becomes an adult ▪ The film is about a young man's *coming-of-age*. — often used figuratively ▪ The album marked her *coming-of-age* as a singer. [=the album showed that she had developed her talents fully as a singer] — see also *come of age* at [1]AGE

com•ma /ˈkɑ:mə/ *noun, pl* **-mas** [*count*] : a punctuation mark , that is used to separate words or groups of words in a sentence

[1]com•mand /kəˈmænd/ *verb* **-mands**; **-mand•ed**; **-mand•ing**

1 : to give (someone) an order : to tell (someone) to do something in a forceful and often official way [+ *obj*] She *commanded* us to leave. ▪ Military leaders *commanded* the troops to open fire. ▪ She *commanded* that work on the bridge cease immediately. [*no obj*] We had no choice but to do as they *commanded*.

2 [+ *obj*] : to have authority and control over (a group of people, such as soldiers) ▪ He *commands* a platoon of 60.

3 [+ *obj*] **a** : to deserve or be able to get or receive (something) ▪ She has a reputation that *commands* attention/respect. [=people give her respect/attention because of her reputation] ▪ With his skills and experience, he can *command* a high salary. **b** : to have and be able to use or control (something) ▪ The company *commands* much power and influence in the business world. ▪ They *command* many resources.

4 [+ *obj*] *formal* : to be in a place in which you can clearly see (something) ▪ Their house is on a hill that *commands* an excellent view of the valley.

[2]command *noun, pl* **-mands**

1 : an order given to a person or animal to do something [*count*] We are expected to obey his *commands*. ▪ She shouted out *commands* to the crew. ▪ Begin on/at my *command*. ▪ We started to teach the dog simple *commands* like "sit" and "lie down." ▪ The dog will only attack ***on my command***. [=will only attack when I tell it to] [*noncount*] The soldiers marched ***on command***. [=they marched when they were ordered to march] — see also *your wish is my command* at [2]WISH

2 [*count*] : an instruction in the form of a code or signal that tells a computer to do something ▪ You can perform several actions with keyboard *commands*. ▪ The system recognizes voice *commands*.

3 [*noncount*] **a** : the power that someone (such as a military officer) has to give orders and to control a group of people ▪ He was relieved of his *command* after being charged with misconduct. ▪ He has *command* of 100 troops. = He has 100 troops ***under his command***. ▪ Who is the officer ***in command of*** the unit? — see also CHAIN OF COMMAND ***synonyms*** see [1]POWER **b** : control of something (such as a situation, activity, or feeling) ▪ I assumed *command* of the business after my father's death. ▪ He immediately took *command* of the situation. ▪ She seems to be ***in (full) command of*** the situation. [=she seems to have complete control of the situation] ▪ He finally felt *in command of* his life. ▪ She stayed *in com-*

mand of herself [=she did not lose control of her emotions] during the trial.

4 [*singular*] : knowledge and skill that allows you to do or use something well — + *of* ▪ She has a good *command of* French. [=she speaks French well] ▪ His *command of* the piano is impressive.

5 [*count*] : a group of people or an area that is under the control of a military officer ▪ He is an officer in the Middle East *command*. ▪ He quickly earned the respect of his *command*.

6 [*count*] : a group of military officers of high rank who give orders ▪ The order came down from Naval *Command*. — see also HIGH COMMAND, SECOND-IN-COMMAND

at your command : available for your use ▪ They used every resource *at their command*. [=*at their disposal*] ▪ If you need anything, please ask me. I am *at your command*. [=I am available to help you at any time]

com•man•dant /ˈkɑːmənˌdɑːnt, *Brit* ˌkɒmənˈdænt/ *noun, pl* **-dants** [*count*] : an officer who is in charge of a group of soldiers in the military

com•man•deer /ˌkɑːmənˈdiɚ/ *verb* **-deers**; **-deered**; **-deer•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to take (something, such as a vehicle or building) by force especially for military purposes ▪ The soldiers *commandeered* civilian vehicles to help transport the injured.

com•mand•er /kəˈmændɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

1 : a person who is in charge of a group of people ▪ the platoon/battalion *commander* ▪ the city's police *commander* — often used as a title ▪ *Commander* John/Jane Smith

2 : an officer of high rank in the U.S. Navy, the U.S. Coast Guard, or the British Royal Navy

commander in chief *noun, pl* **commanders in chief** [*count*] : a person who is in charge of all the armed forces of an entire country ▪ The President exercised his power as *commander in chief* to deploy forces in the region.

com•mand•ing /kəˈmændɪŋ/ *adj*

1 [*more* ~; *most* ~] : having a powerful or important quality that attracts attention, respect, etc. ▪ He is a *commanding* figure in American literature. [=he is an important and respected figure in American literature] ▪ He has a very *commanding* voice/manner. ▪ He has a ***commanding presence*** when he speaks. [=he attracts attention when he speaks]

2 *always used before a noun* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : very likely to result in victory in a race, competition, etc. ▪ She holds a ***commanding lead*** in the polls. ▪ Our team was in a ***commanding position*** as the game neared its end.

3 *always used before a noun* : allowing you to see an area very well ▪ The castle is in a ***commanding position*** at the top of the hill. ▪ The hill provides a ***commanding view*** of the surrounding countryside.

commanding officer *noun, pl* ~ **-cers** [*count*] : an officer who is in charge of a group of people in the military or of a military camp or base ▪ He reported the incident to his *commanding officer*.

com•mand•ment /kəˈmændmənt/ *noun, pl* **-ments** [*count*] : an important rule given by God that tells people how to behave ▪ a *commandment* from God ▪ the Ten *Commandments* in the Bible ▪ the First *Commandment*

com•man•do /kəˈmændoʊ/ *noun, pl* **-dos** *or* **-does** [*count*] : a soldier who is trained to carry out surprise attacks on an enemy ▪ an army *commando* — often used before another noun ▪ a *commando* raid/force

command performance *noun, pl* ~ **-mances** [*count*] : a special performance of a concert, play, etc., that is done at the request of an important person (such as a king)

com•mem•o•rate /kəˈmɛməˌreɪt/ *verb* **-rates**; **-rat•ed**; **-rat•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to exist or be done in order to remind people of (an important event or person from the past) ▪ The festival *commemorates* the town's founding. ▪ The plaque *commemorates* the battle that took place here 200 years ago.

2 : to do something special in order to remember and honor (an important event or person from the past) ▪ Each year on this date we *commemorate* our ancestors with a special ceremony. ▪ All of the director's films will be shown to *commemorate* [=*observe*] the 50th anniversary of his death.

com•mem•o•ra•tion /kəˌmɛməˈreɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** : something (such as a special ceremony) that is intended to honor an important event or person from the past [*count*] Several well-known celebrities attended the *commemoration*. [*noncount*] A service was held ***in commemoration of*** the battle. [=was held to commemorate the battle]

com•mem•o•ra•tive /kəˈmɛmrətɪv/ *adj* : intended to honor an important event or person from the past ▪ a *commemorative* postage stamp ▪ a *commemorative* ceremony

com•mence /kəˈmɛns/ *verb* **-menc•es**; **-menced**; **-menc•ing** *formal* : to begin [*no obj*] The festivities will *commence* with a parade. ▪ Their contract *commences* in January. ▪ They *commenced* to argue. = They *commenced* arguing. [+ *obj*] The court *commenced* criminal proceedings. ▪ The country has *commenced* preparations for war.

com•mence•ment /kəˈmɛnsmənt/ *noun, pl* **-ments** *formal*

1 [*noncount*] : the time when something begins : BEGINNING — usually + *of* ▪ They awaited the *commencement of* the trial. ▪ It's the first attempt at peace since the *commencement* [=*start*] *of* hostilities.

2 *US* : a ceremony during which degrees or diplomas are given to students who have graduated from a school or college [*noncount*] the week before *commencement* [=*graduation*] [*count*] A poet will speak at the *commencement*. — often used before another noun ▪ a *commencement* speech/address/ceremony ▪ *commencement* exercises

com•mend /kəˈmɛnd/ *verb* **-mends**; **-mend•ed**; **-mending** [+ *obj*] *formal*

1 : to praise (someone or something) in a serious and often public way ▪ He *commended* her honesty. ▪ His poetry is highly *commended* by other writers. — often + *for* ▪ He *commended* her *for* her honesty. ▪ They should be *commended for* their bravery.

2 : to mention (someone or something) as deserving attention or approval : RECOMMEND ▪ I *commend* this book to anyone interested in learning more about American history. ▪ Their theory ***has much to commend it*** [=there are many good things about it] ▪ His ideas are not likely to ***commend themselves to*** most voters. [=most voters will not like and approve of his ideas]

com•mend•able /kəˈmɛndəbəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* : deserving praise and approval ▪ a *commendable* effort ▪ Your honesty is *commendable*.

– **com•mend•ably** /kəˈmɛndəbli/ *adv* ▪ He did a *commendably* thorough job.

com•men•da•tion /ˌkɑːmənˈdeɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** *formal*

1 [*noncount*] : the act of praising or approving of someone or something ▪ words of *commendation* [=*approval, praise*] ▪ Their hard work deserves *commendation*.

2 [*count*] : something (such as an official letter) that praises someone publicly ▪ The President issued a *commendation* praising the volunteers for their exceptional work during the relief effort. — often + *for* ▪ He was awarded a *commendation for* bravery.

com•men•su•rate /kəˈmɛnsərət/ *adj, formal* : equal or similar to something in size, amount, or degree ▪ The increase in demand caused a *commensurate* [=*proportionate*] increase in prices. ▪ Her new position came with a *commensurate* level of responsibility. — often + *with* ▪ The punishment should be *commensurate with* the offense.

– **com•men•su•rate•ly** *adv* ▪ a luxury hotel with *commensurately* high prices

[1]com•ment /ˈkɑːˌmɛnt/ *noun, pl* **-ments**

1 a : a spoken or written statement that expresses an opinion about someone or something [*count*] The most frequent *comment* was that the service was slow. ▪ I find your *comments* offensive. ▪ I'd like to begin with a few general *comments*. ▪ We have no further *comments*. [=we have nothing more to say] ▪ *Comments* or suggestions can be sent to our main Web address. ▪ She heard him making rude *comments* [=*remarks*] about the neighbors. ▪ We haven't gotten any *comments* on/about the new design. ▪ I'd appreciate your *comments on* this issue. ▪ We've received positive *comments* from many of our readers. [*noncount*] She couldn't be reached for *comment*. ▪ We let the remark pass without *comment*. [=we did not respond to the remark] ✧ The phrase ***no comment*** is used to tell someone (such as a reporter) that you do not wish to answer a question. ▪ "Did you know the defendant well?" "*No comment*." ***synonyms*** see [1]REMARK

b [*count*] : a written note that explains or discusses the meaning of something (such as a piece of writing) ▪ The new edition includes the translator's *comments*.

2 [*noncount*] : spoken or written discussion about something (such as an event in the news) ▪ The radio program offers news and *comment*. ▪ The trial drew widespread *comment*.

3 [*count*] : something that shows or makes a statement about the true state or condition of something — usually singular;

+ *on* ▪ Their case is a sad *comment* [=*commentary*] *on* the current state of the justice system. ▪ She sees the film as a *comment on* modern values.

²comment *verb* **-ments; -ment•ed; -ment•ing** : to make a statement about someone or something : to make a comment [*no obj*] When asked about his involvement in the scandal, he refused/declined to *comment*. — usually + *on* ▪ Several people have *commented on* my new dress. ▪ He declined to *comment on* the matter. [+ *obj*] She *commented* that the service seemed slow. ▪ "The service seems slow today," she *commented*. [=*remarked*]

com•men•tary /ˈkɑːmənˌteri, *Brit* ˈkɒməntri/ *noun, pl* **-tar•ies**

1 : spoken or written discussion in which people express opinions about someone or something [*noncount*] The television show features political *commentary* by well-known journalists. ▪ The magazine includes humor and social *commentary*. [*count*] The book is a *commentary* on her experiences abroad. ▪ I like listening to his social *commentaries*.

2 : a spoken description of an event (such as a sports contest) as it is happening [*noncount*] He provided *commentary* during the game. [*count*] The major television stations provided ***running commentaries*** on the election results.

3 [*count*] : something that shows or makes a statement about the true state or condition of something — usually singular; + *on* ▪ The students' poor performance on the tests is a sad *commentary* [=*comment*] *on* the current state of education in this country.

com•men•tate /ˈkɑːmənˌteɪt/ *verb* **-tates; -tat•ed; -tat•ing** [+ *obj*] : to provide a description on a radio or television program of an event (such as a sports contest) as it is happening ▪ He will be *commentating* on tomorrow night's game.

com•men•ta•tor /ˈkɑːmənˌteɪtɚ/ *noun, pl* **-tors** [*count*]

1 : a person who discusses important people and events on television, in newspapers, etc. ▪ a political *commentator* ▪ social *commentators*

2 : a person who provides a description on a radio or television program of an event (such as a sports contest) as it is happening ▪ a sports *commentator* ▪ (*US*) a ***color commentator*** [=a person whose job is to make interesting comments on a radio or television broadcast about the things that are happening in a sports contest]

com•merce /ˈkɑːmɚs/ *noun* [*noncount*] : activities that relate to the buying and selling of goods and services ▪ interstate *commerce* [=*trade*] ▪ major centers of *commerce* ▪ He was the Secretary of *Commerce* under the last President. — see also CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

¹com•mer•cial /kəˈmɚʃəl/ *adj*

1 : related to or used in the buying and selling of goods and services ▪ *commercial* property/regulations/vehicles ▪ a *commercial* airliner ▪ The city wanted to encourage *commercial* rather than residential development along the river. [=the city wanted businesses rather than apartments or houses to be built along the river] ▪ a *commercial* and industrial city [=a city with many businesses and factories]

2 [*more ~; most ~*] **a** : concerned with earning money ▪ Their music is too *commercial*. ▪ *commercial* artists **b** *always used before a noun* : relating to or based on the amount of profit that something earns ▪ The play was a *commercial* success but an artistic failure. [=the play earned a lot of money but did not show artistic skill]

3 *always used before a noun* : paid for by advertisers ▪ *commercial* television/broadcasting ▪ The average American sees and hears thousands of *commercial* messages each day.

– **com•mer•cial•ly** *adv* ▪ He produced several *commercially* successful films. ▪ *commercially* available software ▪ The album did well *commercially*. [=the album earned a lot of money; many people bought the album]

²commercial *noun, pl* **-cials** [*count*] : an advertisement on radio or television ▪ a *commercial* for a new kind of soap ▪ We'll be back after the ***commercial break***. [=the time when advertisements are broadcast during a radio or television program]

com•mer•cial•ism /kəˈmɚʃəˌlɪzəm/ *noun* [*noncount*] *disapproving* : the attitude or actions of people who are influenced too strongly by the desire to earn money or buy goods rather than by other values ▪ the *commercialism* of modern society ▪ the increasing *commercialism* of the Christmas holiday

com•mer•cial•ize *also Brit* **com•mer•cial•ise** /kəˈmɚʃəˌlaɪz/ *verb* **-iz•es; -ized; -iz•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 *disapproving* : to use (something) as an opportunity to earn money — usually used as *(be) commercialized* ▪ She hates to see Christmas *commercialized*. ▪ The beach resort *has been commercialized* and has none of its original charm.

2 *business* : to make (something) available to customers ▪ The company hopes to *commercialize* the drug next year.

– **com•mer•cial•i•za•tion** *also Brit* **com•mer•cial•i•sation** /kəˌmɚʃələˈzeɪʃən, *Brit* kəˌmɚːʃəˌlaɪˈzeɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the *commercialization* of Christmas

com•mie *or* **Com•mie** /ˈkɑːmi/ *noun, pl* **-mies** [*count*] *chiefly US, informal + disapproving* : COMMUNIST

com•min•gle /kəˈmɪŋgəl/ *verb* **-min•gles; -min•gled; -min•gling** *formal* : to join or mix together : COMBINE [*no obj*] Fact and fiction *commingle* in the story. [+ *obj*] He *commingled* his personal funds with money from the business. — often used as *(be) commingled* ▪ Fact and fiction *are commingled* in the story.

– **commingling** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the *commingling* of fact and fiction

com•mis•er•ate /kəˈmɪzəˌreɪt/ *verb* **-ates; -at•ed; -at•ing** [*no obj*] *formal* : to express sadness or sympathy for someone who has experienced something unpleasant ▪ Friends called to *commiserate* [=*sympathize*] when they heard that he had to cancel the trip. ▪ The players *commiserated* over/about their loss in the championship game. — often + *with* ▪ The players *commiserated with* each other.

– **com•mis•er•a•tion** /kəˌmɪzəˈreɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*noncount*] Friends offered words of *commiseration*. [*plural*] It's still not clear whether congratulations or *commiserations* are in order.

com•mis•sary /ˈkɑːməˌseri, *Brit* ˈkɒməsri/ *noun, pl* **-sar•ies** [*count*] *US* : a store that sells food and basic household supplies on a military base or in a prison

¹com•mis•sion /kəˈmɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-sions**

1 [*count*] : a group of people who have been given the official job of finding information about something or controlling something : COMMITTEE ▪ She served on the city's water *commission*. ▪ the Federal Elections *Commission* ▪ Both states set up *commissions* to examine their public schools.

2 : an amount of money paid to an employee for selling something [*count*] She gets a *commission* for each car she sells. [*noncount*] She sells cars ***on commission***. [=she receives an amount of money for each car that she sells] ▪ The salespeople in that store all work *on commission*.

3 [*noncount*] *formal* : the act of committing a crime ▪ a weapon used in the *commission* of a crime

4 : a request or order for someone to do something for money [*count*] He received a *commission* from the king to paint the queen's portrait. [*noncount*] an artist working ***on commission*** [=an artist doing work that has been specifically requested or ordered]

5 [*count*] : a position of high rank in the military ▪ He received his *commission* in the Army as a colonel.

in commission *or* ***into commission*** : able to function properly : ready for use ▪ The Internet connection is back *in commission*. [=is working again]

out of commission : not able to function properly ▪ The elevator/doorbell was *out of commission*. [=*broken, out of order*] — often used figuratively ▪ He was *out of commission* [=unable to work, travel, etc.] for three days with the flu.

²commission *verb* **-sions; -sioned; -sion•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 a : to order or request (something) to be made or done ▪ A portrait of the queen was *commissioned*. ▪ The magazine *commissioned* a story about the world's best beaches. ▪ The report on poverty was *commissioned* by the governor. **b** : to order or request (someone) to make or do something ▪ The king *commissioned* the artist to paint his portrait.

2 : to make (someone) an officer in the military ▪ She was *commissioned* in the Navy as a captain.

3 : to make (a ship) officially active and ready for use ▪ The ship was *commissioned* in 2004. — opposite DECOMMISSION

– **commissioned** *adj* ▪ The ship remained a *commissioned* ship for more than 30 years. [=the ship was officially in use for more than 30 years] ▪ a ***commissioned officer*** [=a military officer of high rank; an officer whose rank is higher than sergeant]

com•mis•sion•aire /kəˌmɪʃəˈneɚ/ *noun, pl* **-aires** [*count*] *chiefly Brit, old-fashioned* : DOORMAN

com•mis•sion•er /kəˈmɪʃənɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

1 : a member of a commission : one of a group of people who have been given the official job of finding information about something or controlling something ▪ the city's library *commissioners*

2 : an official who is in charge of a government department or part of a government department ▪ the mental health *commissioner* ▪ the police *commissioner*

3 *US* : an official who is in charge of a major professional sport (such as baseball, football, or hockey) ▪ The baseball *commissioner* decided to suspend the players for 10 games.

com•mit /kə'mɪt/ *verb* **-mits; -mit•ted; -mit•ting**

1 [+ *obj*] : to do (something that is illegal or harmful) ▪ *commit* [=*perpetrate*] a crime ▪ *commit* suicide/murder/rape/adultery ▪ The massacre was *committed* by the rebel army.

2 [+ *obj*] : to decide to use (a person, money, etc.) for some particular purpose or use — often + *to* or *for* ▪ The army *committed* two divisions *to* the battle. ▪ The city *committed* millions of dollars *for* the housing project.

3 : to say that (someone or something) will definitely do something : to make (someone or something) obligated to do something [+ *obj*] I've *committed* myself to a meeting on Thursday. = I'm *committed* to a meeting on Thursday. [=I have said that I will definitely go to a meeting on Thursday] ▪ The contract *commits* the company to finishing the bridge by next fall. ▪ He keeps delaying his decision because he doesn't want to ***commit himself.*** [*no obj*] Many companies are reluctant to *commit* to the new technology. [=to say that they will definitely use it] ▪ They have not yet *committed* to a particular course of action.

4 : to decide to give your love, support, or effort to someone or something in a serious or permanent way [*no obj*] My girlfriend just can't seem to *commit*! [+ *obj*] He won't *commit* himself to a long-term relationship. ▪ Many local officials have not yet *committed* themselves to a presidential candidate. ▪ They are *committing* themselves to the pursuit of truth.

5 [+ *obj*] : to cause (someone) to be put in a prison or a mental hospital — usually used as *(be) committed* ▪ She *was committed* to a state mental hospital.

6 [+ *obj*] *Brit, law* : to order (someone) to be tried in a court of law ▪ The magistrate *committed* him to stand trial at the Bristol Crown Court.

commit (something) to memory : to learn (something) so that you remember it perfectly : to memorize (something) ▪ I *committed* the poem *to memory*.

commit (something) to paper/writing : to write (something) down ▪ She *committed* her thoughts *to writing*.

com•mit•ment /kə'mɪtmənt/ *noun, pl* **-ments**

1 [*count*] : a promise to do or give something ▪ We've got *commitments* from several charities to donate food and clothing. ▪ the government's *commitment* of troops to the region ▪ I can't coach my daughter's basketball team. I have too many *commitments* already. [=I have too many things that I have promised to do] ▪ It's been a struggle to balance my professional and family *commitments*. [=to do both what I have promised to do for my job and what I have promised to do for my family] ▪ The church has a *commitment* to helping the poor. ▪ Getting a dog is a ***big commitment*** [=something that requires you to do a lot] ▪ Opening your own business requires a significant ***financial commitment*** [=it requires you to spend a lot of money over a long time]

2 : a promise to be loyal to someone or something [*count*] — usually + *to* ▪ She isn't ready to make a lifelong *commitment to* another person. ▪ Are you willing to make a *commitment to* our cause? ▪ He questions the company's *commitment to* safety. [*noncount*] He's afraid of *commitment*. [=he's afraid of committing himself to a serious relationship with one person]

3 [*noncount*] : the attitude of someone who works very hard to do or support something ▪ Some of his teammates said he showed a lack of *commitment* (to the team). ▪ The boss noticed her strong *commitment* to her work. ▪ No one doubts your *commitment* to the cause.

com•mit•tal /kə'mɪtl/ *noun, pl* **-tals** [*count*]

1 *formal* : the act of burying someone's body in a grave ▪ a funeral service, followed by *committal* in the family plot ▪ a private *committal* service = a private service of *committal*

2 *chiefly Brit, law* : the act or process of ordering someone to be put in a prison or a mental hospital ▪ She argued against the *committal* of the defendant to a mental hospital. ▪ *committal* proceedings

committed *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : willing to give your time, energy, etc., to something : LOYAL, DEDICATED ▪ We're very *committed* to the cause. ▪ a *committed* environmentalist ▪ *committed* [=*faithful*] Christians ▪ I'm not married but I'm in a ***committed relationship*** [=I'm in a serious and lasting romantic relationship with someone]

com•mit•tee /kə'mɪti/ *noun, pl* **-tees** : a group of people who are chosen to do a particular job or to make decisions about something [*count*] the Senate Judiciary *Committee* ▪ the Olympic *Committee* ▪ We're waiting for recommendations from the advisory/ethics *committee*. ▪ a planning/congressional/legislative *committee* [*noncount*] management by *committee* ▪ The bill has been referred back to *committee*. — see also SCHOOL COMMITTEE, SUBCOMMITTEE

com•mode /kə'moʊd/ *noun, pl* **-modes** [*count*]

1 : a low piece of furniture with drawers or sometimes a door and shelves

2 a : a chair with a hole in the seat and a pot underneath that is used as a toilet **b** *US* : TOILET ▪ There are towels in the cabinet above the *commode*.

com•mod•i•fy /kə'mɑ:də,faɪ/ *verb* **-fies; -fied; -fy•ing** [+ *obj*] *disapproving* : to treat (something that cannot be owned or that everyone has a right to) like a product that can be bought and sold ▪ Do we really want to *commodify* our water supply? ▪ I feel like our culture is being *commodified*.

– **com•mod•i•fi•ca•tion** /kə'mɑ:dəfə'keɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] – **commodified** *adj* ▪ our increasingly *commodified* culture

com•mo•di•ous /kə'moʊdijəs/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *formal* : having a lot of space ▪ a *commodious* apartment/room/house

com•mod•i•ty /kə'mɑ:dəti/ *noun, pl* **-ties** [*count*]

1 : something that is bought and sold ▪ agricultural *commodities* like grain and corn ▪ Oil is a *commodity* in high demand. ▪ *commodity* prices

2 : something or someone that is useful or valued ▪ Patience is a rare *commodity*. ▪ an actor who is a ***hot commodity*** [=who is very popular] in Hollywood right now

com•mo•dore /'kɑ:mə,doə/ *noun, pl* **-dores** [*count*]

1 : a high-ranking officer in the navy

2 : the person who is in charge of a yachting or boating club

1com•mon /'kɑ:mən/ *adj*

1 : belonging to or shared by two or more people or groups ▪ They have a *common* ancestor. ▪ The people on the island have a sense of *common* identity. ▪ a *common* goal/interest ▪ The pool at the condominiums is ***common property.*** [=the pool is owned by all of the condominium owners] ▪ The organization works for the ***common good.*** [=the public good; the advantage of everyone] ▪ He was chosen as the leader by ***common consent.*** [=everyone agreed that he should be the leader] — see also COMMON GROUND, *common knowledge* at KNOWLEDGE

2 *commoner; -est* [*or more ~; most ~*] **a** : done by many people ▪ It is *common* practice for one town's fire department to help another town when there is a big fire. ▪ a *common* spelling mistake **b** : occurring or appearing frequently : not rare ▪ a *common* [=*widespread*] disease ▪ Buffalo were once a *common* [=*familiar*] sight on the American plains. ▪ Electric windows are a *common* feature in new cars. ▪ "Smith" is a *common* name. ▪ The problem is *common* to laptop computers. = It's *common* for laptop computers to have this problem. ▪ I think some of the most *common* flowers are also some of the prettiest.

3 : of a type that is regularly seen and not considered special or unique ▪ the *common* housefly ▪ cures for ***the common cold***

4 a : without special rank or status ▪ a *common* soldier ▪ You're nothing but a *common* [=*ordinary*] thief! **b** : not having power, wealth, or high status ▪ My parents were *common* [=*ordinary, regular*] folk. ▪ the *common* people ▪ the *common* man — see also COMMON SENSE

5 : expected from polite and decent people ▪ He didn't even have the *common* decency to apologize. ▪ It is *common* courtesy to say "thank you."

6 *commoner; -est* [*or more ~; most ~*] *Brit, old-fashioned* + *disapproving* : of or belonging to a low social class ▪ His manners are very *common*. ▪ She thought him *common* and uneducated.

common-or-garden *chiefly Brit, informal* : not unusual : GARDEN-VARIETY ▪ This is not just your *common-or-garden* nightclub.

– **com•mon•ly** *adv* [*more ~; most ~*] ▪ He is *commonly* believed to be the discoverer of electricity. ▪ a medicine *commonly* used to treat the flu ▪ *commonly* held beliefs/notions ▪ The kangaroo is *commonly* associated with Australia.

– **com•mon•ness** /'kɑ:mənnəs/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ The team showed a *commonness* of purpose. ▪ the *commonness* of the name "Smith"

C

[2]common *noun, pl* **-mons**
1 [*count*] : a public area or park usually in the center of a town or city ▪ the town *common* ▪ Boston *Common*
2 commons *US* : a place where meals are served at a school, college, etc. [*singular*] a **dining commons** [*plural*] The campus has several *dining commons*.
3 the Commons : HOUSE OF COMMONS
in common : shared together ▪ Intersecting lines have one point *in common*. ✧ People who have something *in common* share interests, beliefs, attitudes, opinions, etc. ▪ We have *a lot* (of things) *in common* (with each other). ▪ You're a musician too? I guess we have a lot *in common*. ▪ She's very nice, but we have **nothing in common**. ✧ Things that have something *in common* share features or characteristics. ▪ The cameras have/share some basic features *in common*. ▪ The two cultures have a lot *in common* (with each other). ▪ The film has more *in common* with the director's earlier works than with his most recent projects. ▪ (*formal*) The town, **in common with** [=*like*] others in the region, depends on the tourism industry.

com•mon•al•i•ty /ˌkɑ:məˈnæləti/ *noun, pl* **-ties** *formal*
1 [*noncount*] : the fact of sharing features or qualities ▪ *commonality* of origin
2 [*count*] : a shared feature or quality ▪ *commonalities* among the various religions [=features or qualities that the religions have in common] ▪ The plans share important *commonalities*. ▪ We have/share a *commonality* of purpose. [=our purpose is the same]

common denominator *noun, pl* ~ **-tors** [*count*]
1 *mathematics* : a number that can be divided by each of the denominators of a group of fractions ▪ 36 is a *common denominator* of ¼ and ⅓.
2 : something (such as a feature or quality) that is shared by all the members of a group of people or things ▪ Drugs seem to be the *common denominator* in these crimes. — see also LOWEST COMMON DENOMINATOR

com•mon•er /ˈkɑ:mənɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a person who is not a member of the nobility ▪ a prince who married a *commoner*

Common Era *noun* [*noncount*] : CHRISTIAN ERA

common ground *noun* [*noncount*] : something that people agree about even if they disagree about other things ▪ Hunters and environmentalists found *common ground* in their opposition to the new law.

common law *noun* [*noncount*] : the laws that developed from English court decisions and customs and that form the basis of laws in the U.S.

com•mon–law /ˈkɑ:mənˌlɑ:/ *adj, always used before a noun* — used to describe a relationship between a man and a woman that is considered to be a marriage because the man and woman have lived together for a long period of time ▪ a *common-law* marriage ▪ his *common-law* wife ▪ her *common-law* husband

common market *noun, pl* ~ **-kets** [*count*] : a group of countries that allows free trade among its members

common noun *noun, pl* ~ **nouns** [*count*] : a word (such as "singer," "ocean," or "car") that refers to a person, place, or thing but that is not the name of a particular person, place, or thing — compare PROPER NOUN

[1]com•mon•place /ˈkɑ:mənˌpleɪs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : happening or appearing in many places and not unusual : very common or ordinary ▪ Drug use has become *commonplace* at rock concerts. ▪ He photographed *commonplace* objects like lamps and bowls. ▪ Much of her writing was *commonplace* [=*unoriginal, unremarkable*] and boring.

[2]commonplace *noun, pl* **-plac•es** [*count*] *formal*
1 : an idea, expression, remark, etc., that is not new or interesting ▪ It is a *commonplace* that we only use a small part of our brain's capacity.
2 : something that happens or appears in many places and is not unusual ▪ We now accept cell phones and laptop computers as *commonplaces* of everyday life.

common room *noun, pl* ~ **rooms** [*count*] : a room that may be used by all members of a group of people in a school, residential community, etc.

common sense *noun* [*noncount*] : the ability to think and behave in a reasonable way and to make good decisions ▪ You really should go to see a doctor if your leg hurts that much. It's just *common sense*! ▪ Obey the laws and use *common sense* when operating your boat. ▪ She's very smart but she doesn't have a lot of *common sense*.
– com•mon•sense *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ He says there are *commonsense* solutions to social problems. ▪ *commonsense* wisdom

common touch *noun*
the common touch : the ability of someone in a position of power or authority to attract the support of ordinary people ▪ He is a politician with *the common touch*.

com•mon•weal /ˈkɑ:mənˌwi:l/ *noun* [*noncount*] *old-fashioned + formal* : the happiness, health, and safety of all of the people of a community or nation ▪ a President who promotes the *commonweal* [=*common good*]

com•mon•wealth /ˈkɑ:mənˌwɛlθ/ *noun, pl* **-wealths**
1 [*count*] : a group of countries or states that have political or economic connections with one another — often + *of* ▪ a *commonwealth of* states
2 a *the Commonwealth* : a U.S. state — used officially of Kentucky, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, and Virginia ▪ *the Commonwealth* of Kentucky **b** [*count*] : a political unit that is like a U.S. state but that pays no federal taxes and has only a representative in Congress who does not vote — used officially of Puerto Rico and of the Northern Mariana Islands
3 *the Commonwealth* : the countries that were once part of the British Empire

com•mo•tion /kəˈmoʊʃən/ *noun* : noisy excitement and confusion [*noncount*] I went outside to see what all the *commotion* [=*hubbub*] was about. [*singular*] There was a sudden *commotion* when the actress entered the restaurant.

com•mu•nal /kəˈmju:nl, ˈkɑ:mjənl/ *adj*
1 a : shared or used by members of a group or community ▪ a *communal* meal/bathroom ▪ The tribe lived in *communal* huts. ▪ *communal* property **b** : relating to or involving members of a commune (sense 1) ▪ a *communal* living arrangement ▪ *communal* life ▪ a *communal* farm
2 [*more* ~; *most* ~] : relating to a situation in which you are doing something with other people ▪ the *communal* experience of riding on the train ▪ a *communal* atmosphere
3 *formal* : involving people from different racial or cultural groups ▪ *communal* violence
– com•mu•nal•ly *adv* ▪ Nuns live *communally*.

[1]com•mune /kəˈmju:n/ *verb* **-munes; -muned; -mun•ing** [*no obj*] *formal* : to communicate *with* someone or something in a very personal or spiritual way ▪ *commune with* God ▪ a psychic who *communes with* the dead — often used figuratively ▪ I like to be outside to *commune with* nature. [=to spend time experiencing and appreciating nature]

[2]com•mune /ˈkɑ:mˌju:n/ *noun, pl* **-munes** [*count*]
1 : a group of people who live together and share responsibilities, possessions, etc. ▪ He's living in a religious *commune*. ▪ hippie *communes*
2 : the smallest division of local government in some countries especially in Europe

com•mu•ni•ca•ble /kəˈmju:nɪkəbəl/ *adj, medical* : able to be passed to another person ▪ *communicable* [=*infectious*] diseases ▪ There is no evidence that the virus is *communicable*. [=*contagious, catching*]

com•mu•ni•cant /kəˈmju:nɪkənt/ *noun, pl* **-cants** [*count*] : a person who is a member of a usually specified Christian church ▪ He was a *communicant* of Holy Cross Church.

com•mu•ni•cate /kəˈmju:nəˌkeɪt/ *verb* **-cates; -cat•ed; -cat•ing**
1 : to give information about (something) to someone by speaking, writing, moving your hands, etc. [+ *obj*] He was asked to *communicate* the news to the rest of the people. ▪ His book *communicates* [=*conveys*] the harsh realities of war. ▪ She *communicated* her ideas to the group. [*no obj*] Good teachers *communicate* effectively. ▪ She likes to *communicate* [=(more informally) *keep in touch*] with her sister through/by/via e-mail. ▪ The two computers are able to *communicate* directly with one another. ▪ The pilot *communicated* with the airport just before the crash.
2 : to get someone to understand your thoughts or feelings [*no obj*] The couple has trouble *communicating*. ▪ the challenge of getting the two groups to *communicate* with each other [+ *obj*] We *communicate* a lot of information through body language. ▪ He *communicated* his dissatisfaction to the staff. ▪ If you're excited about the product, your enthusiasm will *communicate* itself to customers.
3 [+ *obj*] *medical* : to pass (a disease) from one person or animal to another ▪ One monkey *communicated* [=*transmitted, spread*] the disease to the others. ▪ The disease is *communicated* through saliva.
4 [*no obj*] *formal, of rooms, parts of a building, etc.* : to have

openings to each other ▪ The rooms *communicate* [=*connect*] through a secret passage.

– **com·mu·ni·ca·tor** /kə'mju:nə,keɪtɚ/ *noun, pl* **-tors** [*count*] ▪ The president was an effective *communicator*. ▪ a good/poor *communicator*

com·mu·ni·ca·tion /kə,mju:nə'keɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**

1 [*noncount*] : the act or process of using words, sounds, signs, or behaviors to express or exchange information or to express your ideas, thoughts, feelings, etc., to someone else ▪ human *communication* ▪ nonverbal *communication* ▪ He is studying insect *communication*. ▪ Parents need to have good *communication* with their children. [=they need to be able to understand and be understood by their children] ▪ *communication* problems/skills ▪ There was a breakdown in *communication* between members of the group. ▪ (*formal*) We are ***in communication*** by e-mail. [=we are communicating with each other by e-mail] ▪ television and other means of ***mass communication***

2 [*count*] *formal* : a message that is given to someone : a letter, telephone call, etc. — usually singular ▪ The captain received an important *communication*.

3 *communications* [*noncount*] **a** : the ways of sending information to people by using technology ▪ radio/wireless/electronic *communications* ▪ *Communications* is a growing industry. ▪ *communications* systems/technology ▪ a ***communications satellite*** [=a satellite that is used to send signals for television, radio, etc., to people around the world] **b** : the study of how information is sent to people by using technology ▪ He majored in *communications* in college.

com·mu·ni·ca·tive /kə'mju:nə,keɪtɪv, kə'mju:nəkətɪv/ *adj, formal*

1 [*more* ~; *most* ~] : willing to talk to people ▪ He wasn't very *communicative*. [=*talkative*]

2 : relating to communication ▪ *communicative* disorders

com·mu·nion /kə'mju:njən/ *noun, pl* **-nions**

1 *Communion* [*noncount*] : a Christian ceremony in which bread is eaten and wine is drunk as a way of showing devotion to Jesus Christ ▪ She went to the front of the church for *Communion*. ▪ take/receive *Communion* ▪ celebrate *Communion* — called also *Holy Communion, the Eucharist*

2 [*noncount*] *formal* : a close relationship with someone or something — usually + *with* ▪ He sat alone on the mountain, in *communion with* the wilderness.

3 [*count*] *formal* : a group of Christians who have the same beliefs ▪ the Anglican *communion* [=*denomination*] ▪ Christian *communions*

com·mu·ni·qué /kə'mju:nə,keɪ/ *noun, pl* **-qués** [*count*] *formal* : an official announcement about a usually very important piece of news ▪ The news station received a *communiqué* [=*bulletin*] after the bombing.

com·mu·nism *or* **Communism** /'kɑ:mjə,nɪzəm/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a way of organizing a society in which the government owns the things that are used to make and transport products (such as land, oil, factories, ships, etc.) and there is no privately owned property — compare CAPITALISM, SOCIALISM

com·mu·nist *or* **Communist** /'kɑ:mjənɪst/ *noun, pl* **-nists** [*count*] : a person who believes in communism or is a member of a political party that supports communism

– **communist** *or* **Communist** *adj* ▪ *communist* ideology/leaders ▪ a *communist* country ▪ the *Communist* Party

com·mu·ni·ty /kə'mju:nəti/ *noun, pl* **-ties**

1 [*count*] : a group of people who live in the same area (such as a city, town, or neighborhood) ▪ a respectable member of the *community* ▪ The festival was a great way for the local *community* to get together. ▪ Many *communities* are facing budget problems. ▪ People in the *community* wanted better police protection. ▪ a rural *community* ▪ *community* leaders

2 [*count*] : a group of people who have the same interests, religion, race, etc. ▪ an artistic/business/medical *community* ▪ the town's Jewish *community* ▪ ethnic/religious *communities* ▪ the scientific *community*

3 [*count*] : a group of nations — usually singular ▪ the international *community*

4 [*noncount*] : a feeling of wanting to be with other people or of caring about the other people in a group ▪ The school encourages a sense/feeling of *community* in its students. ▪ *community* spirit

5 [*count*] *biology* : a group of animals or plants that live in the same place ▪ a *community* of bacteria

community center (*US*) *or Brit* **community centre** *noun, pl* ~ **-ters** [*count*] : a building or group of buildings where there are classes and activities for the people who live in a community

community college *noun, pl* ~ **-leges** [*count*] *US* : a school that you go to after high school : a school that offers courses leading to an associate's degree ✧ A community college offers two years of studies similar to those in the first two years of a four-year college.

community service *noun* [*noncount*] : work that is done without pay to help people in a community ✧ People do community service because they want to or because a court of law has ordered them to do it as a form of punishment for a crime. ▪ She was sentenced to 100 hours of *community service*.

community theater *noun, pl* ~ **-ters** *US*

1 [*noncount*] : the activity of acting in or producing a play in the theater for enjoyment and not as a job ▪ She spends her free time acting in *community theater*. ▪ He's done school plays and *community theater*. ▪ a *community theater* group/production — called also (*Brit*) *amateur dramatics*

2 [*count*] : a small theater where community theater is performed ▪ performing at the/a local *community theater*

com·mu·ta·tion /,kɑ:mjə'teɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count*] *law* : a change of a punishment to a less severe one ▪ He appealed for a *commutation* of his death sentence to life imprisonment.

[1]com·mute /kə'mju:t/ *verb* **-mutes; -mut·ed; -mut·ing**

1 [*no obj*] : to travel regularly to and from a place and especially between where you live and where you work ▪ He *commutes* to work every day by train. ▪ She *commutes* 400 miles a week. — compare TELECOMMUTE

2 [+ *obj*] *law* : to change (a punishment) to a less severe one ▪ The judge *commuted* his death sentence to life imprisonment.

– **com·mut·er** /kə'mju:tɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] ▪ busy *commuters* on their way to work ▪ a *commuter* train

[2]commute *noun, pl* **-mutes** [*count*] : the journey that you make when you travel to or from a place that you go to regularly (such as the place where you work) — usually singular ▪ She has a long *commute* to work/school. ▪ There is always a lot of traffic on my morning *commute*.

comp /'kɑ:mp/ *noun, pl* **comps** [*count*] *US, informal* : something that is given to someone (such as a customer) for free ▪ The tickets were *comps*.

– **comp** *verb* **comps; comped; comp·ing** [+ *obj*] ▪ They *comped* us the tickets. [=they gave us the tickets for free] ▪ Our meals were *comped*.

[1]com·pact /kəm'pækt/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 a : smaller than other things of the same kind ▪ The camera is *compact*. ▪ The drill has a *compact* design. ▪ a ***compact car*** **b** : using little space and having parts that are close together ▪ the apartment's *compact* floor plan ▪ The cabin was *compact* but perfectly adequate.

2 : closely or firmly packed or joined together ▪ *compact* dirt

3 *of a person or animal* : short but solid and strong ▪ He is *compact* and muscular. ▪ He has a *compact* body.

– **com·pact·ly** *adv* ▪ The crib folds *compactly* for traveling. [=the crib can be folded so that its parts are close together] ▪ a *compactly* built hockey player ▪ *compactly* designed computers – **com·pact·ness** /kəm'pæktnəs/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ The computer offers power as well as *compactness*. [=it is both powerful and small]

[2]com·pact /kəm'pækt/ *verb* **-pacts; -pact·ed; -pact·ing** : to press (something) so that it is harder and fills less space [+ *obj*] Tractors had *compacted* [=*compressed*] the soil. [*no obj*] The snow had *compacted* into a hard icy layer.

– **com·pact·ed** *adj* ▪ *compacted* snow/soil – **com·pac·tor** *also* **com·pact·er** /kəm'pæktɚ/ *noun, pl* **-tors** *also* **-ters** [*count*] ▪ a ***trash compactor*** [=a machine that presses trash together]

[3]com·pact /'kɑ:m,pækt/ *noun, pl* **-pacts** [*count*]

1 : a small flat case containing powder or makeup for a woman's face — see picture at GROOMING

2 *US* : a small car ▪ a new line of *compacts* [=*compact cars*] — compare SUBCOMPACT

– compare [4]COMPACT

[4]com·pact /'kɑ:m,pækt/ *noun, pl* **-pacts** [*count*] *formal* : an agreement between two or more people or groups ▪ States created a *compact* to control milk prices. — compare [3]COMPACT

compact disc *noun, pl* ~ **discs** [*count*] : CD

com·pa·dre /kəm'pɑ:dreɪ/ *noun, pl* **-dres** [*count*] *chiefly*

US, informal : a close friend : BUDDY ▪ How are you doing, *compadre*?

com•pan•ion /kəm'pænjən/ *noun, pl* **-ions** [*count*]

1 a : a person or animal you spend time with or enjoy being with ▪ She has been my closest *companion* since childhood. ▪ his longtime *companion* ▪ The old dog had been her ***constant companion*** for over 12 years. [=had been with her most of the time for 12 years] — sometimes used figuratively ▪ Pain was his *constant companion*. [=he felt pain all the time] **b** : someone you are with ▪ my dinner *companion* [=the person I was eating dinner with] ▪ traveling *companions*

2 a : something that is meant to be used with something else — often + *to* ▪ The book is a *companion to* the television series with the same name. ▪ The book is the *companion* volume *to* his previous book on jazz. ▪ The table is a ***companion piece*** to the two chairs. **b** — used in the titles of books that give information about a particular subject ▪ The Gardener's *Companion*

3 : a person who is paid to live with and help someone who is older or sick ▪ We've hired a *companion* for my elderly mother.

com•pan•ion•able /kəm'pænjənəbəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal + literary* : FRIENDLY ▪ a *companionable* young man ▪ *companionable* laughter
– **com•pan•ion•ably** /kəm'pænjənəbli/ *adv* ▪ chatting/talking *companionably*

com•pan•ion•ship /kəm'pænjən,ʃɪp/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the good feeling that comes from being with someone else ▪ She missed her husband's *companionship* after he died. [=she missed being with her husband] ▪ He had only a dog for *companionship*. [=his only companion was his dog]

com•pan•ion•way /kəm'pænjən,weɪ/ *noun, pl* **-ways** [*count*] : a stairway on a ship that connects one deck to another

com•pa•ny /'kʌmpəni/ *noun, pl* **-nies**

1 [*count*] : a business organization that makes, buys, or sells goods or provides services in exchange for money ▪ He runs his own trucking *company*. ▪ She joined the *company* last year. ▪ record/insurance/computer *companies* ▪ The *company* is based in Paris. — often used before another noun ▪ *company* policy/profits ▪ the *company* director ▪ *company* executives/officials

2 [*noncount*] : the state or condition of being with another person ▪ I enjoy her *company*. [=I enjoy being with her] ▪ I would love for you to come over. I could really use the *company*. [=I really want to spend time with someone; I do not want to be alone] ▪ I turned the radio on ***for company***. [=so that I wouldn't be lonely] ▪ I felt nervous being ***in the company of*** [=*around, with*] such important people. ▪ (*chiefly Brit*) She arrived ***in company with*** the mayor. [=she was with the mayor when she arrived] ▪ I'll ***keep you company*** [=I'll stay with you] while you wait for your mom. ▪ He has been ***keeping company with*** [=associating with] a gang of known criminals. ▪ (*chiefly Brit*) The children have no idea how to behave ***in company***. [=with a group of people] ▪ It's not something you should talk about ***in polite company***. [=in formal settings; with people you do not know well] — see also *in mixed company* at MIXED

3 [*noncount*] **a** : someone or something you spend time with or enjoy being with ▪ He's good *company*. [=he's enjoyable to be around] ▪ I'm lousy *company* tonight. [=I'm not enjoyable to be around tonight; I'm in a bad mood] ▪ Her dogs/sisters/books/thoughts are her only *company* these days. **b** : the people you spend time with ▪ You can tell a lot about people by the ***company they keep***. ▪ She's been ***keeping bad company***. [=spending time with people who are not morally good] ✧ If you are ***in good company*** or have ***plenty of company***, you are in the same situation or have the same problem or opinion as many other people. ▪ If you're confused about the new system, you're *in good company*. [=other people are also confused] ▪ Do you know now what you will do when you retire? If not, you have *plenty of company*. ▪ If you think health-care costs are out of control, you've got *plenty of company*.

4 [*noncount*] : guests or visitors especially at your home ▪ We are having *company* for dinner. [=guests or visitors will be eating dinner with us at our home] ▪ Are you expecting *company*?

5 [*count*] **a** : a group of soldiers ▪ the soldiers of *Company* C **b** : the officers and crew of a ship ▪ the ship's *company*

6 [*count*] : a group of actors, dancers, singers, etc., who perform together ▪ a theater/ballet *company*

7 [*noncount*] : people who are not named but are part of a group ▪ the law firm of Smith and *Company* ▪ (*informal*) John and *company* got to the party pretty late.

part company see ²PART

two's company, three's a crowd — used to say that a third person is not welcome when two people (such as two lovers) want to be alone with each other ▪ Well, I'll leave you two lovebirds alone. *Two's company, three's a crowd.*

company car *noun, pl* ~ **cars** [*count*] : a car that an employer gives an employee to use for driving that relates to the employee's work

com•pa•ra•ble /'kɑ:mpərəbəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] — used to say that two or more things are very similar and can be compared to each other ▪ A *comparable* refrigerator today would cost a lot more than the one I bought 10 years ago. ▪ The two houses are *comparable* in size. ▪ Their salaries are *comparable* with those of other managers. ▪ The school's test scores were *comparable* [=*close*] to the national average. ▪ The situations aren't at all *comparable*. [=*alike*]
– **com•pa•ra•bil•i•ty** /ˌkɑ:mpərə'bɪləti/ *noun* [*noncount*]
– **com•pa•ra•bly** /'kɑ:mpərəbli/ *adv* ▪ The two cars are *comparably* equipped. [=they have similar features]

¹com•par•a•tive /ˌkəm'perətɪv/ *adj, always used before a noun*

1 : seeming to be something when compared with others ▪ She is a *comparative* [=*relative*] newcomer to the industry. [=she is not really a newcomer but is much more of a newcomer than many others] ▪ We dropped anchor in the *comparative* [=*relative*] safety of the harbor. [=the harbor was not completely safe but it was safer than the area outside the harbor]

2 : involving the act of looking at the ways that things are alike or different ▪ She did a *comparative* study of classical and modern art. ▪ I'm taking a class in *comparative* anatomy/literature. ▪ a *comparative* analysis of the roles of women in different cultures

3 *grammar* : of or relating to the form of an adjective or adverb that is used to indicate more of a particular quality ▪ The *comparative* form of "happy" is "happier"; the *comparative* form of "good" is "better"; the *comparative* form of "clearly" is "more clearly." — compare SUPERLATIVE

²comparative *noun, pl* **-tives** [*count*] : the comparative form of an adjective or adverb : the form of an adjective or adverb that is used to indicate more of a particular quality ▪ "Taller" is the *comparative* of "tall." — compare SUPERLATIVE

com•par•a•tive•ly *adv* : when measured or judged against something else : in comparison with something else ▪ These prices are *comparatively* [=*relatively*] high. ▪ a *comparatively* [=*relatively*] small amount ✧ The phrase ***comparatively speaking*** is used to suggest that what is being said involves a comparison to something else. ▪ *Comparatively speaking*, the movie wasn't bad. [=the movie was better than some other movie]

¹com•pare /kəm'peɚ/ *verb* **-pares**; **-pared**; **-par•ing**

1 [+ *obj*] : to say that (something) is similar *to* something else ▪ The poet *compared* [=*likened*] his sweetheart *to* a beautiful rose. ▪ The singer's voice has been *compared to* that of Elvis.

2 [+ *obj*] : to look at (two or more things) closely in order to see what is similar or different about them or in order to decide which one is better ▪ We each did the homework assignment, then *compared* answers. ▪ I *compared* several bicycles before buying one. ▪ For our assignment we must ***compare and contrast*** the two poets. [=say what is similar and different about them]

3 [*no obj*] : to be as good or as bad as something else : to be on the same level or in the same category as something else — usually + *with* or *to* ▪ He says skiing is fun enough but it can't *compare with* snowboarding. [=he says skiing is fun but snowboarding is better] ▪ Spraining an ankle hurts but doesn't *compare to* breaking a leg. [=breaking a leg is worse than spraining an ankle]

4 [*no obj*] : to seem better or worse in comparison to something else : to be good or bad when measured against something else ▪ How do the restaurants *compare*? — usually + *with* or *to* ▪ How does your new job *compare to* the last one? [=is your new job better or worse than the last one?] ▪ Her scores *compare* well *with* those of the rest of the class.

compare apples and/to/with apples : to compare things that are very similar ▪ The article *compares apples to apples*, grouping wines of the same variety and price together.

compare apples and/to/with oranges : to compare things

that are very different ▪ To compare large trucks with compact cars is to *compare apples with oranges*.

compared to *or* ***compared with*** : in relation to (something else) : measured or judged against (something else) ▪ I'm a slob *compared to* my roommate. ▪ This rain is nothing *compared to* what we got yesterday. [=yesterday's rain was worse than today's rain] ▪ Today's quiz was easy *compared with* the last one.

compare notes : to talk to someone about something that you and that person have each done, experienced, etc. ▪ The parents *compared notes* on raising children. ▪ I phoned a coworker after the meeting to *compare notes*.

[2]compare *noun*

beyond compare *also* ***without compare*** : better or greater than any other : having no equal ▪ The singer's voice is *beyond compare*. ▪ beauty *beyond compare*

com•par•i•son /kəm'perəsən/ *noun, pl* **-sons**

1 : the act of looking at things to see how they are similar or different [*count*] a *comparison* of the data from the two studies [*noncount*] a wine that ***stands/bears comparison*** with [=it is as good as] wines that are much more expensive

2 : the act of suggesting that two or more things are similar or in the same category [*count*] the *comparison* of monkeys to humans ▪ I don't think *comparisons* of her situation and/with mine are appropriate. [*noncount*] His poetry ***evokes/invites comparison with*** [=it is similar to] the work of Robert Frost.

by/in comparison : when compared with another : when looked at or thought about in relation to someone or something else ▪ Yesterday's weather was very cold. Today's weather is mild *by comparison*. — often + *with* ▪ He's a well-behaved child *in comparison with* his brother.

draw a comparison *or* ***draw comparisons*** : to say that two or more things or people are similar ▪ The brochure *draws a comparison* between the hotel and a medieval palace. ▪ The writer *draws* unflattering *comparisons* between the mayor and a dictator.

make a comparison *or* ***make comparisons*** **1** : to say that two or more things or people are similar ▪ His work has been widely praised. *Comparisons have been made* to the great painters of past centuries. **2** : to look at similarities and differences between two or more things or people ▪ The Web site allows consumers to *make* direct *comparisons* between competing products.

no comparison — used to suggest that two or more things are very different ▪ There's really *no comparison* between the two models. [=one is much better than the other]

comparison shop *verb* ~ **shops**; ~ **shopped**; ~ **shopping** [*no obj*] : to compare items while shopping in order to see which one is the best or has the lowest price ▪ The Internet allows consumers to *comparison shop* with ease.

– **comparison shopper** *noun, pl* ~ **-ers** [*count*]

com•part•ment /kəm'pɑɚtmənt/ *noun, pl* **-ments** [*count*]

1 : an enclosed space or area that is usually part of something larger and is often used to hold a specific thing ▪ The suitcase has a zippered *compartment* for personal items. ▪ The refrigerator has a separate *compartment* for meats.

2 : one of the separate areas of an automobile, train, or airplane ▪ the baggage *compartments* ▪ the passenger *compartment* ▪ the engine *compartment* — see also GLOVE COMPARTMENT

– **com•part•men•tal** /kəm,pɑɚt'mɛntl/ *adj* ▪ a *compartmental* design – **com•part•ment•ed** /kəm'pɑɚt,mɛntəd/ *adj* ▪ *compartmented* metal trays [=metal trays that have separate compartments]

com•part•men•tal•ize *also Brit* **com•part•men•tal•ise** /kəm,pɑɚt'mɛntə,laɪz/ *verb* **-iz•es**; **-ized**; **-iz•ing** [+ *obj*] *somewhat formal*

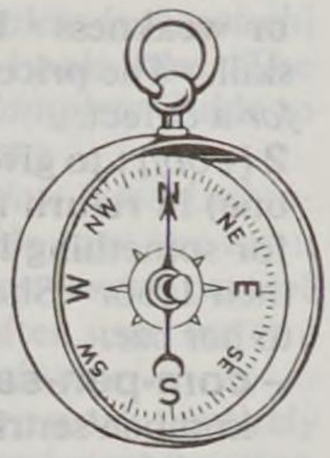
1 : to separate (something) into sections or categories ▪ He *compartmentalizes* his life by keeping his job and his personal life separate.

2 : to separate (two or more things) from each other ▪ The company has *compartmentalized* its services.

3 : to put (something) in a place that is separate from other things ▪ A soldier must be able to *compartmentalize* [=*isolate*] his emotions to focus on the mission.

– **com•part•men•tal•i•za•tion** *also Brit* **com•part•men•tal•i•sa•tion** /kəm,pɑɚt,mɛntələ'zeɪʃən, *Brit* kəm,pɑ:t,mɛntə,laɪ'zeɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the *compartmentalization* of ideas/responsibilities – **com•part•men•tal•ized** *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ a *compartmentalized* box ▪ a *compartmentalized* life

com•pass /'kʌmpəs/ *noun, pl* **-pass•es**



compass

1 [*count*] : a device that is used to find direction by means of a needle that always points north ▪ He always carries a *compass* when he walks in the woods. ▪ Guests arrived from all ***points of the compass***. [=*directions*]

2 [*count*] : something that helps a person make choices about what is right, effective, etc. ▪ His religion is the *compass* that guides him. ▪ Interest rates serve as a *compass* for determining whether to buy or sell stocks. ▪ The character in the movie had no ***moral compass*** to tell him that stealing was wrong.

3 [*count*] **a** : a tool that consists of two pointed sticks joined at the top and that is used for measuring distances — often plural ▪ a pair of *compasses* [=*dividers*] **b** : a tool that consists of a pen or pencil attached to a pointed stick and that is used for drawing circles

4 [*noncount*] : a specialized area of knowledge, skill, experience, etc. — often used after *beyond* or *within* ▪ That topic falls *beyond the compass* [=*beyond the scope*] of my research.

com•pas•sion /kəm'pæʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a feeling of wanting to help someone who is sick, hungry, in trouble, etc. ▪ He felt *compassion* for the lost child. ▪ She shows *compassion* to the sick. ▪ She had the *compassion* to offer help when it was needed most.

com•pas•sion•ate /kəm'pæʃənət/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : feeling or showing concern for someone who is sick, hurt, poor, etc. : having or showing compassion ▪ a very *compassionate* person ▪ a *compassionate* act

– **com•pas•sion•ate•ly** *adv*

compassionate leave *noun* [*noncount*] *chiefly Brit* : a period of time when a person is allowed to stay home from work because a family member is sick or has died ▪ He has three days of *compassionate leave* for the funeral.

com•pat•i•ble /kəm'pætəbəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : able to exist together without trouble or conflict : going together well ▪ *compatible* colors ▪ two people with *compatible* personalities ▪ My roommate and I are very *compatible*. [=we get along very well] ▪ Our tastes are not *compatible*. [=we like very different things] ▪ a policy that is *compatible* with my beliefs [=that agrees with my beliefs] — opposite INCOMPATIBLE

2 *of devices and especially computers* : able to be used together ▪ *compatible* computers ▪ *compatible* systems ▪ This printer is *compatible* with most PCs. — opposite INCOMPATIBLE

– **com•pat•i•bil•i•ty** /kəm,pætə'bɪlətɪ/ *noun* [*noncount*]

com•pa•tri•ot /kəm'peɪtrijət, *Brit* kəm'pætriət/ *noun, pl* **-ots** [*count*]

1 : a person from the same country as someone else ▪ We watched our *compatriots* compete in the Olympics.

2 *US* : a friend or colleague : someone who belongs to the same group or organization as someone else ▪ the famous actor and his theater *compatriots*

com•pel /kəm'pɛl/ *verb* **-pels**; **-pelled**; **-pel•ling** [+ *obj*]

1 : to force (someone) to do something ▪ Illness *compelled* him to stay in bed. ▪ Public opinion *compelled* [=*obliged*] her to sign the bill. ▪ I ***feel compelled*** to leave. [=I feel that I must leave]

2 : to make (something) happen : to force (something) ▪ We took steps to *compel* their cooperation.

com•pel•ling /kəm'pɛlɪŋ/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : very interesting : able to capture and hold your attention ▪ The novel was so *compelling* that I couldn't put it down.

2 : capable of causing someone to believe or agree ▪ *compelling* evidence ▪ He made a *compelling* argument.

3 : strong and forceful : causing you to feel that you must do something ▪ I would need a very *compelling* reason to leave my job. ▪ She had a *compelling* need to share what she had heard. ▪ a *compelling* desire

– **com•pel•ling•ly** *adv* ▪ The novel was *compellingly* written.

com•pen•di•um /kəm'pɛndijəm/ *noun, pl* **-ums** [*count*] : a collection of things (such as photographs, stories, facts, etc.) that have been gathered together and presented as a group especially in the form of a book ▪ a one-volume *compendium* of information ▪ He published a *compendium* of folk tales.

com•pen•sate /'kɑ:mpən,seɪt/ *verb* **-sates**; **-sat•ed**; **-sat•ing** *somewhat formal*

1 [*no obj*] : to provide something good as a balance against something bad or undesirable : to make up *for* some defect

or weakness ▪ His enthusiasm *compensates for* his lack of skill. ▪ The price of the item has been reduced to *compensate for* a defect.

2 [+ *obj*] : to give money or something else of value to (someone) in return for something (such as work) or as payment for something lost, damaged, etc. ▪ *compensate* workers for their labor ▪ She was not *compensated* for the damage done to her car.

– **com•pen•sa•to•ry** /kəm'pɛnsəˌtori, *Brit* kəm'pɛnsətri, kɒmpən'seɪtri/ *adj* ▪ a *compensatory* refund ▪ The patient sued for ***compensatory damages*** [=money awarded to a victim to make up for an injury, damage, etc.]

com•pen•sa•tion /ˌkɑmpən'seɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**

1 a [*noncount*] : something that is done or given to make up for damage, trouble, etc. ▪ The court awarded the victims millions of dollars in *compensation*. ▪ She offered to pay for lunch as *compensation* for keeping me waiting. — see also WORKERS' COMPENSATION **b** [*count*] : something good that acts as a balance against something bad or undesirable ▪ Moving to the coast had some drawbacks, but there were also *compensations*.

2 [*noncount*] *US* : payment given for doing a job ▪ annual *compensation* ▪ executive *compensation*

com•pete /kəm'pi:t/ *verb* **-petes**; **-pet•ed**; **-pet•ing** [*no obj*]

1 : to try to get or win something (such as a prize or reward) that someone else is also trying to win : to try to be better or more successful than someone or something else ▪ Thousands of applicants are *competing* for the same job. ▪ She *competed* against students from around the country. ▪ We are *competing* with companies that are twice our size. ▪ Did you *compete* in the track meet on Saturday?

2 : to try to be noticed, accepted, or chosen over something else ▪ The radio and the television were both on, *competing* for our attention. ▪ *competing* teams/products/theories

can't compete — used to say that one person or thing is much better than another ▪ Store-bought cookies *can't compete* with homemade ones. [=homemade cookies are much better than store-bought cookies]

com•pe•tence /'kɑ:mpətəns/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the ability to do something well : the quality or state of being competent ▪ He trusts in the *competence* of his doctor. ▪ Students must demonstrate *competence* in all subjects. [=must show that they have learned all subjects] — opposite INCOMPETENCE

com•pe•ten•cy /'kɑ:mpətənsi/ *noun, pl* **-cies**

1 [*noncount*] : COMPETENCE ▪ Critics have questioned the director's *competency*.

2 [*count*] *formal* : an ability or skill — usually plural ▪ The task is well within the range of her *competencies*. [=she is able to do the task]

com•pe•tent /'kɑ:mpətənt/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : having the necessary ability or skills : able to do something well or well enough to meet a standard ▪ a *competent* [=*capable*] teacher ▪ She is a *competent* [=*adequate*] portrait painter but she excels with landscapes. — opposite INCOMPETENT

2 *law* : able to take part in a trial ▪ The defendant was declared *competent* to stand trial. ▪ a *competent* witness — opposite INCOMPETENT

– **com•pe•tent•ly** *adv* ▪ He answered all our questions *competently*.

com•pe•ti•tion /ˌkɑ:mpə'tɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**

1 [*noncount*] **a** : the act or process of trying to get or win something (such as a prize or a higher level of success) that someone else is also trying to get or win : the act or process of competing ▪ The school fosters an atmosphere of *competition* rather than cooperation. [=it encourages students to compete against each other instead of work together] ▪ There will be intense/fierce *competition* for the top spots. [=many people will be trying to get the top spots] ▪ These products are ***in competition*** with each other. [=these products are competing with each other] **b** : actions that are done by people, companies, etc., that are competing against each other ▪ Prices are lower when there is *competition* among/between the stores. — often + *from* ▪ The industry has been affected by *competition from* new technologies. ▪ We're up against some stiff/tough *competition from* our rivals. ▪ Downtown stores are looking for new ways to attract customers in the face of *competition from* the stores at the mall.

2 ***the competition*** : a person or group that you are trying to succeed against : a person or group that you are competing with ▪ He sized up *the competition*. [=looked at who he was competing against] ▪ Don't let *the competition* know our trade secrets. ✧ Someone or something that ***has no competition*** is much better than others. ▪ In my opinion, this restaurant *has no competition*.

3 [*count*] : a contest in which people try to win by being better, faster, etc., than others : an event in which people compete ▪ They had/held/staged a *competition* to see who could sell the most lemonade. ▪ a gymnastics/dance/talent *competition* ▪ She won/lost the *competition*.

com•pet•i•tive /kəm'pɛtətɪv/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : of or relating to a situation in which people or groups are trying to win a contest or be more successful than others : relating to or involving competition ▪ *competitive* sports ▪ It is a very *competitive* job market. [=a situation in which a lot of people are trying to get jobs] ▪ The new technology gave them a *competitive* advantage/edge. [=a better chance than others of winning or succeeding]

2 : having a strong desire to win or be the best at something ▪ She is a very *competitive* player. ▪ He has a *competitive* nature. [=he likes to compete and to win]

3 : as good as or better than others of the same kind : able to compete successfully with others ▪ We offer great service at *competitive* rates. [=rates that are close to those of other companies] ▪ You need a degree to be *competitive* in today's job market. ▪ a *competitive* team [=a team with a good chance to win]

– **com•pet•i•tive•ly** *adv* ▪ Our products are *competitively* priced. – **com•pet•i•tive•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

com•pet•i•tor /kəm'pɛtətɚ/ *noun, pl* **-tors** [*count*] : someone who is trying to win or do better than all others especially in business or sports : someone who is competing ▪ We offer better rates than our *competitors*. ▪ There were more than 500 *competitors* in the race. ▪ She is a fierce *competitor*. [=she is someone who tries very hard to win]

com•pi•la•tion /ˌkɑ:mpə'leɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**

1 [*count*] : a group of things (such as songs or pieces of writing) that have been gathered into a collection ▪ The CD is a *compilation* of greatest hits. ▪ a video *compilation*

2 [*noncount*] : the act or process of gathering things together ▪ the slow *compilation* of data

com•pile /kəm'pajəl/ *verb* **-piles**; **-piled**; **-pil•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 a : to create (a CD, book, list, etc.) by gathering things (such as songs or pieces of writing or information) ▪ He *compiled* a book of poems. ▪ She *compiled* a list of names. **b** : to put together (various songs, pieces of writing, facts, etc.) in a publication or collection ▪ They took the best submissions and *compiled* them in a single issue of the magazine. ▪ We *compiled* our findings in the report.

2 *computers* : to change (computer programming instructions) into a form the computer can understand and use ▪ a *compiled* program

– **com•pil•er** /kəm'paɪlɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

com•pla•cen•cy /kəm'pleɪsṇsi/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a feeling of being satisfied with how things are and not wanting to try to make them better : a complacent feeling or condition ▪ The public was lulled into *complacency*. ▪ The stock market crash rattled/shattered/shook our *complacency*. [=took away our feeling that everything was fine]

com•pla•cent /kəm'pleɪsṇt/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *disapproving* : satisfied with how things are and not wanting to change them ▪ The strong economy has made people *complacent*. ▪ We have grown too *complacent* over the years. ▪ a *complacent* [=*self-satisfied*] smirk ▪ We can't afford to be *complacent* about illiteracy.

– **com•pla•cent•ly** *adv*

com•plain /kəm'pleɪn/ *verb* **-plains**; **-plained**; **-plain•ing**

1 [*no obj*] : to say or write that you are unhappy, sick, uncomfortable, etc., or that you do not like something ▪ He works hard but he never *complains*. ▪ If you're unhappy with the service, you should *complain* to the manager. — often + *about* or *of* ▪ Customers are sure to *complain about* the price increase. ▪ In her letters, she *complains of* loneliness. [=she says that she is lonely] ▪ She *complained of* a sore throat. [=she said she had a sore throat] ▪ "How are you feeling?" "I ***can't complain***" [=I am not unhappy or ill; I am fine]

2 [+ *obj*] : to say (something that expresses annoyance or unhappiness) ▪ The students *complained* that the test was too hard. ▪ "These shoes are too tight," he *complained*.

– **com•plain•er** *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] ▪ He's a chronic *complainer*. [=he complains constantly or often] – **com•plain•ing•ly** /kəm'pleɪnɪŋli/ *adv*

com•plain•ant /kəm'pleɪnənt/ *noun, pl* **-ants** [*count*] *law* : a person who makes a formal charge in court saying that someone has done something wrong ▪ The judge ruled in favor of the *complainant*. [=*plaintiff*]

com•plaint /kəm'pleɪnt/ *noun, pl* **-plaints**

1 a [*count*] : a statement that you are unhappy or not satisfied with something ▪ We lodged a *complaint* with the hotel manager. [=we complained to the hotel manager] ▪ The board has received a number of *complaints* about the new policy. ▪ The company has a system to handle customer *complaints*. **b** [*noncount*] : the act of saying or writing that you are unhappy or dissatisfied with something ▪ She did her chores without *complaint*. [=without complaining] ▪ a letter of *complaint* [=a letter in which you complain about something] ▪ You have no ***grounds for complaint*** [=no reasons to complain]

2 [*count*] : something to be unhappy about : something that people complain about ▪ The lack of parking spaces is a common *complaint* among the city's residents. ▪ The lack of financial support is our biggest/only *complaint*. ▪ I have no *complaints* with/about the service. [=I am happy with the service]

3 [*count*] : a pain or sickness in the body : a symptom of a disease ▪ He is being treated for a stomach *complaint*. ▪ Shortness of breath was a common *complaint* among the patients.

4 [*count*] *law* : a formal charge saying that someone has done something wrong ▪ He filed a *complaint* against his employer. ▪ The court dismissed her *complaint*.

com•plai•sant /kəm'pleɪsnt, *Brit* kəm'pleɪznt/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* : willing or eager to please other people ▪ a *complaisant* young man : easily convinced to do what other people want ▪ He was too *complaisant* [=*compliant*] to say no to his brother's demands.

– **com•plai•sance** /kəm'pleɪsnts, *Brit* kəm'pleɪzns/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ He took advantage of her *complaisance*.

[1]com•ple•ment /'kɑ:mpləmənt/ *noun, pl* **-ments** [*count*]

1 : something that completes something else or makes it better ▪ The scarf is a perfect *complement* to her outfit.

2 : the usual number or quantity of something that is needed or used ▪ a full *complement* of farm animals ▪ her usual *complement* of attendants ▪ a ship's *complement* of officers

3 *grammar* : a word or group of words added to a sentence to make it complete ▪ "President" in "they elected her president" and "to work" in "he wants to work" are different kinds of *complements*.

Do not confuse *complement* with *compliment*.

[2]com•ple•ment /'kɑ:mplə,mɛnt/ *verb* **-ments**; **-ment•ed**; **-ment•ing** [+ *obj*] : to complete something else or make it better ▪ The shirt *complements* the suit nicely. ▪ a delicious dinner *complemented* by a splendid dessert ▪ The soup and salad *complement* each other well.

Do not confuse *complement* with *compliment*.

com•ple•men•ta•ry /,kɑ:mplə'mɛntəri/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : completing something else or making it better : serving as a complement ▪ She wore a new outfit with a *complementary* scarf.

2 — used of two things when each adds something to the other or helps to make the other better ▪ The print and online publications are *complementary*, not competitive. ▪ The company owes its success to the *complementary* talents of its co-owners.

3 : going together well : working well together ▪ My spouse and I have *complementary* goals. ▪ *complementary* flavors

4 : not traditional : ALTERNATIVE ▪ ***complementary medicine*** [=*alternative medicine*; methods of healing or treating disease that are different from the usual methods taught in Western medical schools]

Do not confuse *complementary* with *complimentary*.

complementary angles *noun* [*plural*] *mathematics* : two angles that add up to 90 degrees

complementary color *noun* [*count*] *technical* : one of two colors (such as red and green) that are very different from each other and produce a dull color (such as brown or gray) when they are mixed together

[1]com•plete /kəm'pli:t/ *adj* **-plet•er**; **-est** [*or more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : having all necessary parts : not lacking anything ▪ a *complete* [=*entire; whole*] set of encyclopedias ▪ He spoke in *complete* sentences. ▪ This list of names is not *complete*. [=it is missing some names] ▪ She gave us a *complete* [=*thorough*] description of the events. — often used in book titles ▪ The *Complete* Works of Charles Dickens ▪ The *Complete* Guide to Organic Gardening — opposite INCOMPLETE

2 : not limited in any way ▪ She wants *complete* [=*total, absolute*] control of all aspects of the project. ▪ He gave the car a *complete* overhaul. [=made repairs to almost every part of the car] ▪ They sat in *complete* silence. — often used for emphasis ▪ The movie was a *complete* [=*total*] failure.

3 *not used before a noun* : not requiring more work : entirely done or completed ▪ By autumn, the road construction should be *complete*. [=*finished*] — opposite INCOMPLETE

4 *American football, of a forward pass* : caught by the player the ball was thrown to ▪ The pass to the receiver was *complete* for a gain of 10 yards.

complete with : having or including (something good or desirable) ▪ a birthday cake *complete with* candles ▪ The school has built a new sports complex, *complete with* a skating rink. ▪ The car ***comes complete with*** [=*includes*] air-conditioning and a CD player.

– **com•plete•ly** *adv* ▪ Her news took me *completely* by surprise. ▪ I *completely* agree. ▪ We are *completely* different. [=we are different in every way] – **com•plete•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

[2]complete *verb* **-pletes**; **-plet•ed**; **-plet•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to finish making or doing (something) : to bring (something) to an end or to a finished state ▪ I have *completed* my research. = My research is now *completed*. ▪ We *completed* the job. ▪ The project took four months to *complete*. ▪ He has *completed* the ninth grade. [=he has satisfied all the requirements for the ninth grade] ▪ I *completed* the form. [=I wrote all the required information on the form]

2 : to make (something) whole or perfect ▪ Her latest purchase *completes* her collection. ▪ The new baby *completed* their family.

3 *American football* : to throw (a forward pass) to a teammate who catches it ▪ The quarterback *completed* 12 out of 15 passes.

com•ple•tion /kəm'pli:ʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**

1 [*noncount*] : the act or process of completing or finishing something : the state of being complete or finished ▪ He will receive his degree upon *completion* of his studies. ▪ The project is ***near completion*** [=almost finished]

2 [*count*] *American football* : a forward pass made to a teammate who catches it ▪ The quarterback has 11 *completions* in 20 attempts for 80 yards.

[1]com•plex /kɑm'plɛks, *Brit* 'kɒm,plɛks/ *adj*

1 [*more* ~; *most* ~] : having parts that connect or go together in complicated ways ▪ a *complex* system ▪ The house's wiring is *complex*.

2 [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not easy to understand or explain : not simple ▪ a *complex* problem ▪ The situation is more *complex* than you realize. ▪ Her poetry is too *complex* [=*complicated*] for my taste.

3 *grammar* : consisting of a main clause and one or more additional clauses ▪ a *complex* sentence

– **com•plex•ly** *adv* ▪ The rules are *complexly* written.

[2]com•plex /'kɑ:m,plɛks/ *noun, pl* **-plex•es** [*count*]

1 : a group of buildings, apartments, etc., that are located near each other and used for a particular purpose ▪ a sports *complex* ▪ an industrial/apartment *complex*

2 : an emotional problem that causes someone to think or worry too much about something ▪ She has a *complex* about her appearance. — see also INFERIORITY COMPLEX, OEDIPUS COMPLEX

3 : a group of things that are connected in complicated ways ▪ a *complex* [=*system*] of welfare programs ▪ a *complex* of protein molecules

com•plex•ion /kəm'plɛkʃən/ *noun, pl* **-ions** [*count*]

1 : the color or appearance of the skin especially on the face ▪ She has a dark/fair/light/ruddy *complexion*. ▪ a glowing *complexion* ▪ All of the children had healthy *complexions*.

2 : the general appearance or character of something ▪ The *complexion* of the neighborhood has changed over the years.

put a new/different complexion on : to change the appearance of (something) : to cause (something) to be seen or thought about in a new way ▪ That information *puts a* whole *new complexion on* the case.

– **com•plex•ioned** /kəm'plɛkʃənd/ *adj* — usually used in combination ▪ a fair-*complexioned* child [=a child with light-colored skin]

com•plex•i•ty /kəm'plɛksəti/ *noun, pl* **-ties**

1 [*noncount*] : the quality or state of not being simple : the quality or state of being complex ▪ He was impressed by the *complexity* of the music. ▪ The diagram illustrates the *complexity* of the cell's structure. ▪ He doesn't grasp/understand the *complexity* of the situation.

2 [*count*] : a part of something that is complicated or hard to understand — usually plural ▪ the *complexities* of the English language

com•pli•ance /kəm'plajəns/ *noun* [*noncount*] *formal* : the act or process of doing what you have been asked or ordered to do : the act or process of complying ▪ She was rewarded for her *compliance*. ▪ There has been a low/high rate of *compliance* with the new law.

in compliance with : in the way that is required by (a rule, law, etc.) ▪ *In compliance with* a court order, the company has ceased operations. ▪ The workers were not *in* full *compliance with* the rules. [=were not following the rules exactly]

com•pli•ant /kəm'plajənt/ *adj*

1 [*more ~; most ~*] : willing to do whatever you are asked or ordered to do : ready and willing to comply ▪ I asked him for a favor, and he was *compliant*. ▪ a *compliant* young reporter ▪ a *compliant* servant

2 : agreeing with a set of rules, standards, or requirements ▪ The student's shirt was not *compliant* with the school's dress code. ▪ The software is *compliant* with the latest standards.

com•pli•cate /'kɑ:mplə,keɪt/ *verb* **-cates**; **-cat•ed**; **-cat•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to make (something) more difficult or less simple ▪ Changing jobs now would *complicate* her life. ▪ This *complicates* things. [=this makes the situation more difficult] ▪ To *complicate* matters further, his train is running late. [=his train is running late, which makes the situation even more complicated or difficult]

2 : to cause (a medical problem) to become more dangerous or harder to treat ▪ a disease *complicated* by infection

com•pli•cat•ed /'kɑ:mplə,keɪtəd/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : hard to understand, explain, or deal with ▪ The game's rules are too *complicated*. ▪ a *complicated* situation ▪ a very *complicated* issue : having many parts or steps ▪ The machine has a *complicated* design. ▪ a *complicated* plan ▪ a *complicated* mathematical formula

com•pli•ca•tion /,kɑ:mplə'keɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count*]

1 : something that makes something harder to understand, explain, or deal with ▪ The negotiations stalled when *complications* arose.

2 *medical* : a disease or condition that happens in addition to another disease or condition : a problem that makes a disease or condition more dangerous or harder to treat ▪ Pneumonia is a common *complication* of AIDS. ▪ She experienced *complications* during her pregnancy. ▪ The patient died of *complications* from surgery.

com•plic•it /kəm'plɪsət/ *adj, formal* : helping to commit a crime or do wrong in some way ▪ He was *complicit* in the cover-up. [=he helped with the cover-up]

com•plic•i•ty /kəm'plɪsəti/ *noun* [*noncount*] *formal* : the act of helping to commit a crime or do wrong in some way ▪ There's no proof of her *complicity* in the murder. ▪ He acted with his brother's *complicity*.

[1]com•pli•ment /'kɑ:mpləmənt/ *noun, pl* **-ments**

1 [*count*] : a remark that says something good about someone or something ▪ She gave/paid me a *compliment*. [=she said something nice about me] ▪ He told her he admired her paintings and she returned/repaid the *compliment* by saying that she was a fan of his sculptures. ▪ I received a nice *compliment* yesterday. [=someone said something nice about me yesterday] ▪ I'll take that as a *compliment*. [=I'll regard what was said as praise, whether or not the speaker meant it as praise] ▪ When I called you a perfectionist, I meant it as a *compliment*. [=I wanted what I said to be understood as praise] ▪ She is always ***fishing for compliments***. [=she is always trying to get people to say nice things about her]

2 [*count*] : an action that expresses admiration or approval ▪ When customers recommend our company to friends and family members, we consider that to be the highest/best *compliment* we can get.

3 *compliments* [*plural*] — used politely to express praise, welcome, or good wishes to someone ▪ Our *compliments* to the chef! [=we praise the chef for preparing a fine meal] ▪ Please accept this gift with our *compliments*. ▪ A free sample is enclosed with the *compliments* of the manufacturer. ✧ The phrase ***compliments of*** is often used to identify the giver of something that has been provided for free. ▪ We were served free drinks, *compliments of* [=provided without charge by] the casino. *Compliments of* is also used in a joking way to refer to the source of something that is not wanted. ▪ I woke up with a stiff neck, *compliments of* that uncomfortable mattress in their guest room. [=sleeping on the uncomfortable mattress gave me a stiff neck] ▪ He received an audit, *compliments* of the IRS.

Do not confuse *compliment* with *complement*.

[2]com•pli•ment /'kɑ:mplə,mɛnt/ *verb* **-ments**; **-ment•ed**; **-ment•ing** [+ *obj*] : to say nice things about (someone or something) : to pay a compliment to (someone or something) ▪ She *complimented* my outfit. — often + *on* ▪ We *complimented* the pianist *on* his performance.

Do not confuse *compliment* with *complement*.

com•pli•men•ta•ry /,kɑ:mplə'mɛntəri/ *adj*

1 : expressing praise or admiration for someone or something ▪ She made *complimentary* remarks about his work.

2 : given for free ▪ They handed out *complimentary* brochures. ▪ *complimentary* tickets ▪ The restaurant offers valet parking as a *complimentary* service.

Do not confuse *complimentary* with *complementary*.

complimentary close *noun, pl ~* **closes** [*count*] *US* : the words (such as *sincerely yours*) that come before the signature of a letter

com•ply /kəm'plaɪ/ *verb* **-plies**; **-plied**; **-ply•ing** [*no obj*] : to do what you have been asked or ordered to do ▪ I asked the waitress to refill my coffee cup and she happily *complied*. ▪ There will be penalties against individuals who fail to *comply*. — often + *with* ▪ You still have not *complied with* our request. [=have not done what we requested you to do] ▪ We have *complied with* federal law [=we have done what federal law requires] every step of the way. ▪ The devices *comply with* [=are in agreement with] industry standards.

[1]com•po•nent /kəm'poʊnənt/ *noun, pl* **-ments** [*count*] : one of the parts of something (such as a system or mixture) : an important piece of something ▪ the *components* of an electric circuit ▪ He sells spare computer *components*. ▪ The interview is a key *component* in the hiring process. ▪ Hard work has been a major *component* of his success.

[2]component *adj, always used before a noun* : helping to make up the whole of something (such as a system or a mixture) : forming or being a part of something ▪ the *component* parts of a machine

com•port /kəm'poət/ *verb* **-ports**; **-port•ed**; **-port•ing**

comport with [*phrasal verb*] ***comport with (something)*** *US, formal* : to be in agreement with (something) ▪ Her actions *comport with* [=*match*] her ideals.

comport yourself *formal* : to behave in a certain way — used especially in situations where the behavior is admirable or appropriate ▪ He *comported himself* with dignity. ▪ She *comported herself* well during the crisis.

com•port•ment /kəm'poətmənt/ *noun* [*noncount*] *formal* : the way in which someone behaves ▪ the *comportment* of a gentleman

com•pose /kəm'poʊz/ *verb* **-pos•es**; **-posed**; **-pos•ing**

1 [+ *obj*] : to come together to form or make (something) ▪ Minorities *composed* [=*made up*] about a third of the attendees at the conference. — usually used as *(be) composed of* ▪ a stew *composed of* [=made from/with] many ingredients ▪ Our group *is composed of* [=is made up of; consists of] travelers from 7 countries. ▪ The clouds *are composed of* water vapor.

2 a [+ *obj*] : to create and write (a piece of music or writing) ▪ *compose* a song/symphony ▪ *compose* music ▪ She *composed* a letter to her sister. **b** [*no obj*] : to practice the art of writing music ▪ He is in his studio *composing*.

3 [+ *obj*] : to arrange the appearance of (something, such as a picture or image) in an orderly or careful way ▪ an elegantly *composed* photograph

4 [+ *obj*] **a** : to make (yourself) calm ▪ Take a moment to *compose* yourself before you pick up the phone. **b** : to gain control of (your emotions) ▪ She sat quietly on the bench outside the courthouse, trying to *compose* her feelings.

com•posed /kəm'poʊzd/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : calm and in control of your emotions : not feeling or showing anger, fear, etc. ▪ He had told us he felt nervous about the performance, but he seemed perfectly *composed* when he walked onto the stage. ▪ They tried to remain *composed* throughout the ordeal.

com•pos•er /kəm'poʊzɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a person who writes music ▪ She prefers Mozart and Beethoven to modern *composers*.

[1]com•pos•ite /kəm'pɑ:zət, *Brit* 'kɒmpəzɪt/ *adj* : made of different parts or elements ▪ a *composite* photograph ▪ a *composite* material

[2]composite *noun, pl* **com•pos•ites** [*count*]
1 : something that is made up of different parts ▪ a *composite* of minerals ▪ a *composite* of diverse communities
2 *US* : a drawing of someone who is wanted by the police that is made using descriptions given by witnesses ▪ He spotted a man who resembled the police *composite*.

com•po•si•tion /ˌkɑ:mpə'zɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**
1 [*noncount*] : the way in which something is put together or arranged ▪ the painting's unique *composition* : the combination of parts or elements that make up something ▪ Each rock has a slightly different *composition*. [=*makeup*] ▪ the changing *composition* of the country's population ▪ the *composition* of a chemical compound
2 [*count*] : a piece of writing ▪ Is this poem an original *composition*? [=did you write this poem yourself?]; *especially* : a brief essay written as a school assignment ▪ The teacher reminded us to hand in our *compositions* at the end of class.
3 [*count*] : a written piece of music and especially one that is very long or complex ▪ a famous classical *composition*
4 [*noncount*] : the art or process of writing words or music ▪ She studies musical theory and *composition*.

[1]com•post /'kɑ:mˌpoʊst, *Brit* 'kɒmˌpɒst/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a decayed mixture of plants (such as leaves and grass) that is used to improve the soil in a garden ▪ a ***compost heap*** = (*chiefly US*) a ***compost pile*** [=a pile of plant materials that are kept in a garden and allowed to decay to create compost]

[2]compost *verb* **-posts**; **-post•ed**; **-post•ing** [+ *obj*] : to change (plant materials) into compost ▪ We *compost* leaves in our backyard.

com•po•sure /kəm'poʊʒɚ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : calmness especially of mind, manner, or appearance ▪ She never loses her *composure*. [=she always appears calm] ▪ He kept/maintained his *composure*. ▪ After the initial shock she regained/recovered her *composure*. ▪ He answered with *composure*.

com•pote /'kɑ:mˌpoʊt/ *noun, pl* **-potes** [*count, noncount*] : a dessert made of fruits cooked with sugar ▪ blueberry *compote*

[1]com•pound /'kɑ:mˌpaʊnd/ *noun, pl* **-pounds** [*count*]
1 : something that is formed by combining two or more parts; *especially, technical* : a substance created when the atoms of two or more chemical elements join together ▪ chemical/organic *compounds* ▪ a *compound* of sodium and chlorine ▪ The metal reacts with the gas to form a *compound*.
2 : a word formed by combining two or more words ▪ "Rowboat," "high school," and "light-year" are *compounds*.
– compare [4]COMPOUND

[2]com•pound /kɑ:m'paʊnd/ *verb* **-pounds**; **-pound•ed**; **-pound•ing**
1 [+ *obj*] : to make (something, such as an error or problem) worse : to add to (something bad) ▪ He *compounded* [=*exacerbated*] his mistake by announcing it to the whole table.
2 *finance* : to pay interest on both an amount of money and the interest it has already earned [+ *obj*] The interest is *compounded* at regular intervals. [*no obj*] The interest *compounds* quarterly.
3 [+ *obj*] : to form (something) by combining separate things ▪ *compound* a medicine — usually used as *(be) compounded* ▪ an attitude ***compounded of*** [=*made up of*] equal parts greed and arrogance

[3]com•pound /'kɑ:mˌpaʊnd/ *adj*
1 : made up of two or more parts ▪ a *compound* leaf ▪ a *compound* microscope
2 a : made by combining two or more words ▪ "Steamboat" is a *compound* noun. **b** : consisting of two or more main clauses ▪ "I told him to leave and he left" is a *compound* sentence.

[4]com•pound /'kɑ:mˌpaʊnd/ *noun, pl* **-pounds** [*count*] : an enclosed area that contains a group of buildings ▪ a prison *compound* — compare [1]COMPOUND

compound fracture *noun, pl* ~ **-tures** [*count*] *medical* : a broken bone in which a part of the bone sticks out through the skin

compound interest *noun* [*noncount*] *finance* : interest paid both on the original amount of money and on the interest it has already earned — compare SIMPLE INTEREST

com•pre•hend /ˌkɑ:mprɪ'hɛnd/ *verb* **-hends**; **-hend•ed**; **-hend•ing** [+ *obj*] *somewhat formal* : to understand (something, such as a difficult or complex subject) ▪ He is able to fully *comprehend* [=understand completely] what is happening and react appropriately. — often used in negative statements ▪ They are unable to *comprehend* what had happened. ▪ We can scarcely *comprehend* how it all ended. ▪ I find his attitude impossible/difficult to *comprehend*.

com•pre•hen•si•ble /ˌkɑ:mprɪ'hɛnsəbəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *somewhat formal* : able to be understood ▪ a *comprehensible* [=*intelligible*] explanation ▪ They spoke in barely *comprehensible* slang. [=slang that was extremely difficult to understand] — opposite INCOMPREHENSIBLE
– **com•pre•hen•si•bil•i•ty** /ˌkɑ:mprɪˌhɛnsə'bɪləti/ *noun* [*noncount*] – **com•pre•hen•si•bly** /ˌkɑ:mprɪ'hɛnsəbli/ *adv*

com•pre•hen•sion /ˌkɑ:mprɪ'hɛnʃən/ *noun* : ability to understand [*noncount*] He has not the slightest *comprehension* of the subject. [=he does not understand the subject at all] ▪ The students showed excellent reading/language *comprehension*. ▪ The war caused suffering ***beyond comprehension***. [=suffering that is impossible to imagine] ▪ mysteries that are ***beyond our comprehension*** [=mysteries that we cannot understand] [*singular*] I don't have a clear *comprehension* [=*understanding*] of how it works.

[1]com•pre•hen•sive /ˌkɑ:mprɪ'hɛnsɪv/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : including many, most, or all things ▪ a *comprehensive* list ▪ *comprehensive* insurance [=insurance that covers all kinds of risks] ▪ a *comprehensive* [=*thorough*] course of study
2 *Brit* : of or relating to a comprehensive school ▪ *comprehensive* education
– **com•pre•hen•sive•ly** /ˌkɑ:mprɪ'hɛnsɪvli/ *adv* ▪ Each patient was *comprehensively* [=*completely, thoroughly*] evaluated. ▪ Trade was *comprehensively* regulated by the authorities. ▪ (*Brit*) The team was *comprehensively* [=*soundly*] beaten/defeated. – **com•pre•hen•sive•ness** *noun*

[2]comprehensive *noun, pl* **-sives** [*count*] *Brit* : COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL

comprehensive school *noun, pl* ~ **schools** [*count*] *Brit* : a school in Britain for children of all different levels of ability who are over the age of 11 ▪ Some of his friends attended the local *comprehensive school*.

[1]com•press /kəm'prɛs/ *verb* **-press•es**; **-pressed**; **-press•ing**
1 : to press or squeeze (something) so that it is smaller or fills less space [+ *obj*] *compress* the air in a closed chamber ▪ She *compressed* her lips. [*no obj*] Her lips *compressed* into a frown. ▪ a material that *compresses* easily
2 [+ *obj*] : to make (something) shorter or smaller ▪ *compress* a chapter ▪ The author *compressed* [=*condensed*] 80 years of history into 15 pages.
3 *computers* : to reduce the size of (a computer file) by using special software [+ *obj*] *compress* a digital photograph [*no obj*] This type of file *compresses* easily. — opposite DECOMPRESS
– **compressed** *adj* ▪ a bottle of *compressed* air – **com•press•ible** /kəm'prɛsəbəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ This type of file is easily *compressible*. – **com•pres•sion** /kəm'prɛʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ *compression* of air ▪ file/data *compression*

[2]com•press /'kɑ:mˌprɛs/ *noun, pl* **-press•es** [*count*] : a folded cloth that is pressed against a part of the body to reduce pain or stop bleeding from an injury ▪ a cold *compress*

com•pres•sor /kəm'prɛsɚ/ *noun, pl* **-sors** [*count*] : a machine that compresses air or gas

com•prise /kəm'praɪz/ *verb* **-pris•es**; **-prised**; **-pris•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to be made up of (something) : to include or consist of (something) ▪ Each army division *comprised* 4,500 troops. ▪ The play *comprises* three acts.
2 : to make up or form (something) ▪ Nine players *comprise* [=*make up*] a baseball team. ▪ Plants *comprise* [=*constitute, form*] the bulk of their diet. — often used as *(be) comprised* ▪ The play ***is comprised of*** [=*is composed of*] three acts.

[1]com•pro•mise /'kɑ:mprəˌmaɪz/ *noun, pl* **-mis•es**
1 : a way of reaching agreement in which each person or group gives up something that was wanted in order to end an argument or dispute [*noncount*] the art of political *compromise* ▪ To avoid an argument, always be ready to seek *compromise*. [*count*] Both boys will have to ***make compromises*** if they are to share the room. [=they will each have to give up something in order to get along] ▪ The two sides were unable

to ***reach a compromise*** [=unable to come to an agreement] — often used before another noun ▪ a *compromise* agreement/amendment/verdict/measure

2 [*count*] : something that combines the qualities of two different things — often + *between* ▪ The style is a happy *compromise between* formal and informal.

3 : a change that makes something worse and that is not done for a good reason [*noncount*] a director who will not tolerate artistic *compromise* [*count*] She says that accepting their proposal would be a *compromise* of her principles.

[2]compromise *verb* **-mises; -mised; -mis•ing**

1 [*no obj*] : to give up something that you want in order to reach an agreement : to settle differences by means of a compromise ▪ The two sides were unwilling/unable to *compromise*. — often + *on* ▪ They are unwilling to *compromise* (with each other) *on* this issue.

2 [+ *obj*] : to expose (something) to risk or danger : ENDANGER ▪ We can't reveal that information without *compromising* national security.

3 [+ *obj*] : to damage or weaken (something) : IMPAIR ▪ a dangerous drug that can further *compromise* an already weakened immune system

4 [+ *obj*] : to damage (your reputation, integrity, etc.) by doing something that causes people to lose respect for you ▪ He refused to do anything that might *compromise* his reputation/integrity/principles. ▪ She had already ***compromised herself*** by refusing to answer their questions.

– com•pro•mis•er *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

compromising *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : revealing something that is improper or embarrassing ▪ a *compromising* letter/situation ▪ He and his secretary were caught in a ***compromising position*** [=they were caught having sexual relations]

comp•trol•ler /kənˈtroʊlɚ/ *noun, pl* **-lers** [*count*] : a person who is in charge of the financial accounts of a company or organization : CONTROLLER

com•pul•sion /kəmˈpʌlʃən/ *noun, pl* **-sions**

1 [*count*] : a very strong desire to do something ▪ I gave in to one of my *compulsions* and ordered the chocolate dessert. — often followed by *to + verb* ▪ He felt a *compulsion to say* something.

2 [*noncount*] **a** : the act of using force or pressure to make someone do something ▪ We should be able to get them to cooperate without using *compulsion*. ▪ legal *compulsion* **b** : the state of being forced to do something ▪ He was acting ***under compulsion*** [=he was being forced to act] ▪ Their children read only *under compulsion*. [=only when they are forced] ▪ We are ***under no compulsion*** to decide immediately. [=we are not required to decide immediately]

com•pul•sive /kəmˈpʌlsɪv/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*]

1 a : caused by a desire that is too strong to resist : impossible to stop or control ▪ *compulsive* behavior **b** : not able to stop or control doing something ▪ a *compulsive* gambler/liar

2 *chiefly Brit* : very interesting ▪ Her most recent article made *compulsive* [=*compelling*] reading.

– com•pul•sive•ly *adv* ▪ He cleans *compulsively*. ▪ a *compulsively* readable story **– com•pul•sive•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

com•pul•so•ry /kəmˈpʌlsəri/ *adj*

1 : required by a law or rule ▪ *compulsory* [=*mandatory*] education/retirement

2 : having the power of forcing someone to do something ▪ a *compulsory* law

– com•pul•so•ri•ly /kəmˈpʌlsərəli/ *adv*

com•punc•tion /kəmˈpʌŋkʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** : a feeling of guilt or regret : REMORSE [*noncount*] a brutal murderer who killed without *compunction* ▪ He feels/has no *compunction* about his crimes. [*count*] (*chiefly US*) ▪ He has no *compunctions* about his crimes.

com•pu•ta•tion /ˌkɑ:mpjʊˈteɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** : the act or process of computing or calculating something : CALCULATION [*noncount*] methods used for the *computation* of taxes [*count*] simple mental *computations* ▪ The solution required a series of *computations*.

– com•pu•ta•tion•al /ˌkɑ:mpjʊˈteɪʃənl/ *adj* ▪ a *computational* model

com•pute /kəmˈpju:t/ *verb* **-putes; -put•ed; -put•ing** [+ *obj*] : to find out (something) by using mathematical processes : CALCULATE ▪ *compute* a batting average ▪ *compute* your income tax ✧ In informal U.S. English, something that ***does not compute*** does not make sense. ▪ She said they made a mistake but that *does not compute*. [=does not seem true or possible]

– com•put•able /kəmˈpju:təbəl/ *adj*

com•put•er /kəmˈpju:tɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : an electronic machine that can store and work with large amounts of information ▪ He works all day on/with a *computer*. ▪ a personal/desktop/laptop *computer* — often used before another noun ▪ a *computer* program/game/virus ▪ *computer* software

com•put•er•ize *also Brit* **com•put•er•ise** /kəmˈpju:tə-ˌraɪz/ *verb* **-iz•es; -ized; -iz•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to use a computer to make, do, or control (something) ▪ We plan to *computerize* our billing system.

2 : to provide (something) with computers ▪ The office is being *computerized*.

3 : to put (something) into a form that a computer can use ▪ Libraries are *computerizing* their records.

– com•put•er•i•za•tion *also Brit* **com•put•er•i•sa•tion** /kəmˌpju:tərəˈzeɪʃən, *Brit* kəmˌpju:təˌraɪˈzeɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the *computerization* of patient records **– computerized** *also Brit* **computerised** *adj* ▪ a *computerized* billing system ▪ a *computerized* office/database

computer science *noun* [*noncount*] : the study of computers and their uses ▪ She has a degree in *computer science*.

– computer scientist *noun, pl ~* **-tists** [*count*]

computing *noun* [*noncount*] : the use of computers ▪ business *computing*

– computing *adj* ▪ *computing* power ▪ a *computing* system

com•rade /ˈkɑ:mˌræd, *Brit* ˈkɒmˌreɪd/ *noun, pl* **-rades** [*count*]

1 : a close friend you have worked with, been in the military with, etc. ▪ He enjoys spending time with his old army *comrades*. ▪ He spoke fondly of his old ***comrades in arms*** [=the people he fought with or worked together with to achieve something]

2 ***Comrade*** — used as a title for a member of a communist party

– com•rade•ly *adj* ▪ a warm and *comradely* feeling **– com•rade•ship** /ˈkɑ:mˌrædˌʃɪp, *Brit* ˈkɒmˌreɪdˌʃɪp/ *noun* [*noncount*]

[1]con /ˈkɑ:n/ *noun, pl* **cons** [*count*] *informal* : a dishonest trick that is done to get someone's money ▪ It was not a good investment but a *con* [=*swindle, scam*] to rob them of their savings. — called also (*US*) *confidence game,* (*US*) *con game,* (*Brit*) *confidence trick,* (*Brit*) *con trick* — compare [3]CON, [4]CON

[2]con *verb* **cons; conned; con•ning** [+ *obj*] *informal* : to deceive or to trick (someone) : to persuade (someone) by telling lies ▪ We don't like being *conned*. [=*swindled*] ▪ They are accused of *conning* retirees out of their savings. [=of deceiving retired people in order to take their savings] ▪ She was *conned* into volunteering. ▪ He *conned* his way into the job. [=he lied about his qualifications to get the job]

[3]con *noun, pl* **cons** [*count*] *informal* : a person in prison : CONVICT ▪ a tough *con* ▪ an ***ex-con*** [=a former prisoner] — compare [1]CON, [4]CON

[4]con *noun, pl* **cons** [*count*]

1 : a person who is opposed to something ▪ When the new law was proposed, we began hearing arguments from both the pros and the *cons*. [=from the people who supported it and the people who opposed it]

2 : an argument against something ▪ Each technology has its ***pros and cons*** [=has its good parts and its bad parts] : a reason for not doing something ▪ They carefully considered the *pros and cons* of starting their own business. [=considered the arguments for and against starting their own business] ▪ Buying a home can be risky, but the pros outweigh the *cons*. [=the advantages outweigh the disadvantages]

– compare [1]CON, [3]CON

[5]con *adv* : against something ▪ A lot has been written ***pro and con*** about the new law. [=both for and against the new law]

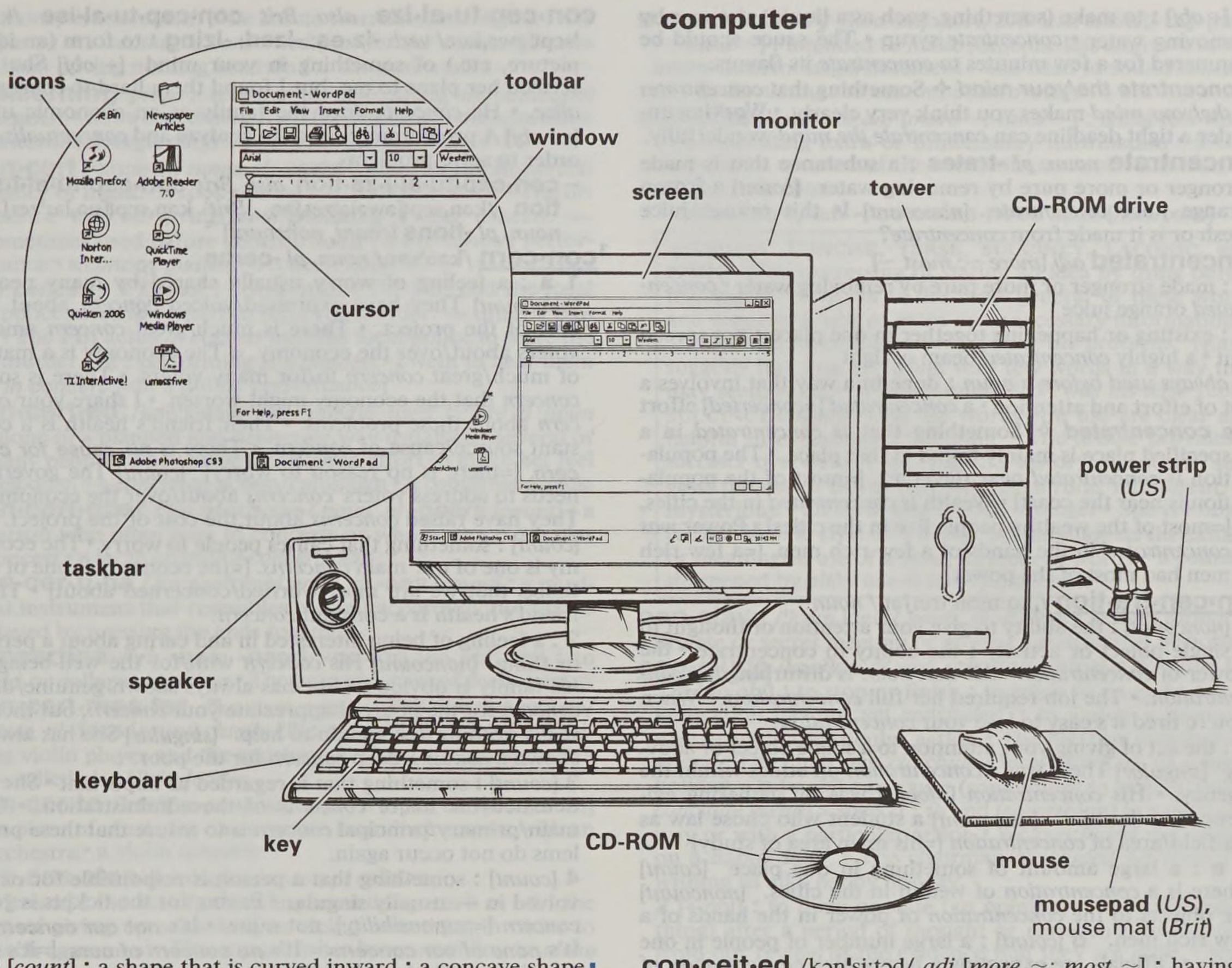
con artist *noun, pl ~* **-tists** [*count*] : a person who tricks other people in order to get their money ▪ The couple lost their savings to a *con artist* who told them he was an investment broker. — called also *con man,* (*US*) *confidence man*

con•cat•e•na•tion /kɑnˌkætəˈneɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count*] *formal* : a group of things linked together in a series ▪ An extraordinary *concatenation* of factors led to his victory.

con•cave /ˌkɑ:nˈkeɪv/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : having a shape like the inside of a bowl : curving inward ▪ a *concave* lens — opposite CONVEX

con•cav•i•ty /kɑnˈkævəti/ *noun, pl* **-ties**

1 [*noncount*] : the quality or state of being concave : the quality of being curved inward ▪ the *concavity* of the lens



2 [*count*] : a shape that is curved inward : a concave shape ▪ The lower back forms a *concavity*. ▪ The large *concavities* along the wall of the restaurant are like private rooms.

con•ceal /kən'si:l/ *verb* **-ceals**; **-cealed**; **-ceal•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to hide (something or someone) from sight ▪ The sunglasses *conceal* her eyes. ▪ The controls are *concealed* behind a panel. ▪ The defendant is accused of attempting to *conceal* evidence. — opposite REVEAL

2 : to keep (something) secret ▪ The editorial accused the government of *concealing* the truth. ▪ She could barely *conceal* her anger. — opposite REVEAL

– **concealed** *adj* ▪ He was carrying a *concealed* [=*hidden*] weapon. ▪ a *concealed* compartment – **con•ceal•ment** /kən'si:lmənt/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ *concealment* of evidence

con•ceal•er /kən'si:lɚ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a type of makeup that is used to hide small marks or dark areas on your face

con•cede /kən'si:d/ *verb* **-cedes**; **-ced•ed**; **-ced•ing**

1 [+ *obj*] : to say that you accept or do not deny the truth or existence of (something) : to admit (something) usually in an unwilling way ▪ I *concede* that the work has been slow so far, but it should speed up soon. ▪ When she noted that the economy was actually improving, he grudgingly/reluctantly *conceded* the point. [=he admitted that she was right] ▪ "Your plan might work," she *conceded*, "but I still think mine is better." ▪ It is generally *conceded* [=*acknowledged, agreed*] that they are the superior team. [=most people agree that they are the superior team]

2 : to admit that you have been defeated and stop trying to win [*no obj*] Although it seems clear that he has lost the election, he still refuses to *concede*. [+ *obj*] He's not ready to *concede* the election. ▪ They were forced to ***concede defeat*** [=to admit that they were defeated]

3 [+ *obj*] : to give away (something) usually in an unwilling way ▪ The former ruler was forced to *concede* power to a new government. ▪ The company says that workers are not *conceding* enough in negotiations.

4 [+ *obj*] *sports* : to allow an opponent to score (a point, goal, etc.) ▪ The team has not *conceded* [=*allowed*] a goal this half.

con•ceit /kən'si:t/ *noun, pl* **-ceits**

1 [*noncount*] : too much pride in your own worth or goodness ▪ His *conceit* has earned him many enemies.

2 [*count*] *literary* : an idea that shows imagination ▪ an artistic *conceit* ▪ a clever *conceit*

con•ceit•ed /kən'si:təd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : having or showing too much pride in your own worth or goodness ▪ a brilliant but *conceited* [=*vain*] musician

– **con•ceit•ed•ly** *adv* – **con•ceit•ed•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

con•ceiv•able /kən'si:vəbəl/ *adj* : able to be imagined : imaginable or possible ▪ They discussed the question from every *conceivable* angle. ▪ It is *conceivable* that she will refuse to go.

– **con•ceiv•ably** /kən'si:vəbli/ *adv* ▪ *Conceivably*, the date could be moved up a week. ▪ We could *conceivably* [=*possibly*] finish tomorrow.

con•ceive /kən'si:v/ *verb* **-ceives**; **-ceived**; **-ceiv•ing**

1 : to think of or create (something) in the mind [+ *obj*] *conceive* an idea ▪ a writer who has *conceived* [=*imagined*] an entire world of amazing creatures ▪ When the writer *conceived* this role, he had a specific actor in mind to play the part. ▪ The system was *conceived* [=*invented*] by a Swedish engineer. ▪ As *conceived* by the committee, the bill did not raise taxes. [*no obj*] — + *of* ▪ They *conceived of* [=*thought of, regarded*] her as a genius. ▪ I can't *conceive of* [=*imagine*] a reason for not supporting this policy.

2 : to become pregnant [*no obj*] a woman who has been unable to *conceive* [+ *obj*] a woman who has been unable to *conceive* a child

[1]con•cen•trate /'kɑ:nsən,treɪt/ *verb* **-trates**; **-trat•ed**; **-trat•ing**

1 [*no obj*] : to think about something : to give your attention to the thing you are doing, reading, etc. ▪ All that noise makes it hard to *concentrate*. ▪ The student has difficulty *concentrating*. — often + *on* ▪ All that noise makes it hard to *concentrate on* the book I'm trying to read. ▪ We need to *concentrate* [=*focus*] *on* this problem. ▪ We need to *concentrate on* finding ways to work more efficiently. ▪ He thought about becoming a lawyer, but he has decided to *concentrate on* a medical career instead. [=he has decided to direct his efforts toward a medical career instead]

2 [+ *obj*] : to cause (attention, efforts, strength, etc.) to be used or directed for a single purpose — usually + *on* ▪ She is *concentrating* her attention *on* her studies. [=she is giving her attention to her studies] ▪ We need to *concentrate* our efforts *on* finding ways to work more efficiently.

3 [+ *obj*] : to make (something, such as a liquid) stronger by removing water ▪ *concentrate* syrup ▪ The sauce should be simmered for a few minutes to *concentrate* its flavors.

concentrate the/your mind ✧ Something that *concentrates the/your mind* makes you think very clearly. ▪ Working under a tight deadline can *concentrate the mind* wonderfully.

[2]concentrate *noun, pl* **-trates** : a substance that is made stronger or more pure by removing water [*count*] a frozen orange juice *concentrate* [*noncount*] Is this orange juice fresh or is it made from *concentrate*?

concentrated *adj* [*more ~; most ~*]

1 : made stronger or more pure by removing water ▪ *concentrated* orange juice

2 : existing or happening together in one place : not spread out ▪ a highly *concentrated* beam of light

3 *always used before a noun* : done in a way that involves a lot of effort and attention ▪ a *concentrated* [=*concerted*] effort

be concentrated ✧ Something that *is concentrated* in a specified place is mainly found in that place. ▪ The population *is concentrated* near the coast. [=most of the population is near the coast] ▪ Wealth *is concentrated* in the cities. [=most of the wealthy people live in the cities] ▪ Power *was concentrated* in the hands of a few rich men. [=a few rich men had most of the power]

con•cen•tra•tion /ˌkɑːnsənˈtreɪʃən/ *noun*

1 [*noncount*] : the ability to give your attention or thought to a single object or activity : the ability to concentrate ▪ the power of *concentration* ▪ All that noise is disturbing my *concentration*. ▪ The job required her full *concentration*. ▪ When you're tired it's easy to lose your *concentration*.

2 : the act of giving your attention to a single object or activity [*singular*] There was a *concentration* on ethics within the agency. ▪ His *concentration* [=*focus*] was on gathering evidence for the trial. [*noncount*] a student who chose law as his field/area of *concentration* [=his main area of study]

3 a : a large amount of something in one place [*count*] There is a *concentration* of wealth in the cities. [*noncount*] He objects to the *concentration* of power in the hands of a few rich men. **b** [*count*] : a large number of people in one place ▪ Officials are expecting a heavy/high *concentration* of tourists [=are expecting many tourists] for the festival.

4 [*count*] : the amount of an ingredient in a mixture ▪ Contaminants were found in low *concentrations*. [=*amounts*] ▪ measuring the *concentration* of salt in a solution ▪ They detected high *concentrations* of pollutants in the water.

concentration camp *noun, pl* **~ camps** [*count*] : a type of prison where large numbers of people who are not soldiers are kept during a war and are usually forced to live in very bad conditions

con•cen•tric /kənˈsɛntrɪk/ *adj* : having the same center ▪ *concentric* circles

[1]con•cept /ˈkɑːnˌsɛpt/ *noun, pl* **-cepts** [*count*] : an idea of what something is or how it works ▪ She is familiar with basic *concepts* of psychology. ▪ not a new *concept* ▪ a *concept* borrowed from computer programming ▪ She seems to be a little ***unclear on the concept*** of good manners. [=she seems not to understand what good manners are]

[2]concept *adj, always used before a noun*

1 : organized around a main idea or theme ▪ a ***concept album*** [=a collection of songs about a specific theme or story]

2 : created to show an idea ▪ a ***concept car*** [=a car built to test or show a new design]

con•cep•tion /kənˈsɛpʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**

1 [*noncount*] : the act or process of conceiving something: such as **a** : the process of forming an idea ▪ He directed the project from *conception* to production. ▪ the *conception* of a new device **b** : the process that occurs within a woman's body when she becomes pregnant ▪ the moment of *conception*

2 : an idea of what something is or should be : CONCEPT [*count*] They have a clear *conception* of how the process works. ▪ a child's *conception* of responsibility ▪ They have very different *conceptions* of the proper role of government. [*noncount*] He has ***no conception of*** the problems we have to face. [=he does not understand or realize the problems we have to face]

con•cep•tu•al /kənˈsɛptʃəwəl/ *adj* : based on or relating to ideas or concepts ▪ a *conceptual* framework/model ▪ The plans have both *conceptual* and practical difficulties. ▪ ***conceptual art*** [=art that expresses an idea]

– **con•cep•tu•al•ly** *adv* ▪ The software is *conceptually* similar to an earlier product but is much easier to use.

con•cep•tu•al•ize *also Brit* **con•cep•tu•al•ise** /kənˈsɛptʃəwəˌlaɪz/ *verb* **-iz•es; -ized; -izing** : to form (an idea, picture, etc.) of something in your mind [+ *obj*] She described her plans to me, but I found them hard to *conceptualize*. ▪ He *conceptualizes* the family as an economic unit. [*no obj*] A programmer needs to analyze and *conceptualize* in order to solve problems.

– **con•cep•tu•al•i•za•tion** *also Brit* **con•cep•tu•al•i•sation** /kənˌsɛptʃəwələˈzeɪʃən, *Brit* kənˌsɛptʃuəˌlaɪˈzeɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count, noncount*]

[1]con•cern /kənˈsɜrn/ *noun, pl* **-cerns**

1 a : a feeling of worry usually shared by many people [*noncount*] They have expressed/voiced *concern* about the cost of the project. ▪ There is much/great *concern* among voters about/over the economy. = The economy is a matter of much/great *concern* to/for many voters. ▪ There is some *concern* that the economy might worsen. ▪ I share your *concern* about these problems. ▪ Their friend's health is a constant source/cause of *concern*. ▪ There is no ***cause for concern***. [=there is no reason to worry] [*count*] The governor needs to address voters' *concerns* about/over the economy. ▪ They have raised *concerns* about the cost of the project. **b** [*count*] : something that causes people to worry ▪ The economy is one of our main *concerns*. [=the economy is one of the things that we are most worried/concerned about] ▪ Their friend's health is a constant *concern*.

2 : a feeling of being interested in and caring about a person or thing [*noncount*] His *concern* with/for the well-being of his family is obvious. ▪ She has always shown genuine/deep *concern* for the poor. ▪ I appreciate your *concern*, but there's really nothing you can do to help. [*singular*] She has always shown a genuine/deep *concern* for the poor.

3 [*count*] : something that is regarded as important ▪ She articulated the major *concerns* of the administration. ▪ Our main/primary/principal *concern* is to assure that these problems do not occur again.

4 [*count*] : something that a person is responsible for or involved in — usually singular ▪ Paying for the tickets is your *concern* [=*responsibility*], not mine. ▪ It's ***not our concern***. = It's ***none of our concern***. = It's ***no concern of ours***. [=it's not our business; it doesn't involve/concern us]

5 [*count*] *formal* : a business or company ▪ a banking *concern* ▪ a ***going concern*** [=a successful business]

[2]concern *verb* **-cerns; -cerned; -cern•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to relate to (something or someone) : to be about (something or someone) ▪ The novel *concerns* three soldiers. ▪ This study *concerns* the noise levels in cities.

2 : to affect or involve (someone) : to be the business or interest of (someone) ▪ The problem *concerns* [=*affects*] us all. ▪ This conversation doesn't *concern* you. ✧ The phrase ***To whom it may concern*** is used at the beginning of a formal letter (such as a letter written to a company) when the name of the person who will read the letter is not known.

3 : to make (someone) worried : to cause concern for (someone) ▪ Our mother's illness *concerns* us.

concern yourself : to become involved or interested in something : to give your attention to something ▪ She can handle the problem alone. There's no need for you to *concern yourself*. ▪ There's no need for you to *concern yourself* with/in her problem. ▪ They shouldn't *concern themselves* with/about small details.

concerned *adj* [*more ~; most ~*]

1 : feeling worry or concern ▪ The school's decision is being questioned by a group of *concerned* parents. ▪ Her family was very *concerned* for/about her safety. ▪ Voters are deeply *concerned* about the economy. ▪ I was *concerned* (to hear) that they stayed out too late.

2 a : having an interest or involvement in something ▪ a discussion that will be of interest to everyone *concerned* ▪ The lawyers called a meeting of all the ***concerned parties***. ▪ She was more ***concerned with*** [=*interested in*] flirting than with getting the job done. ▪ (*chiefly Brit*) She was ***concerned to*** show that she could do the job. [=she thought it was important to show that she could do it] **b** : having a relation to something ▪ The memo is chiefly ***concerned with*** hiring policies. [=the memo chiefly concerns hiring policies; the memo is chiefly about hiring policies]

as far as (someone) is concerned : in the opinion of (someone) ▪ *As far as I'm concerned* [=in my opinion], everything he says is a lie. ▪ *As far as she's concerned*, he is perfect.

as far as (something) is concerned : about (something) : with regard to (something) ▪ He has no worries *as far as*

money is concerned. [=he has no worries about money] ▪ *As far as the weather is concerned* [=*as for the weather*], we've been having nothing but rain for the past week.

concerning *prep* : relating to (something or someone) : ABOUT ▪ news *concerning* friends ▪ There is some confusion *concerning* [=*regarding*] his current whereabouts.

con·cert /'kɑ:nsət/ *noun, pl* **-certs** [*count*] : a public performance of music ▪ a rock *concert* ▪ a classical *concert* ▪ The orchestra will be giving/having/holding a free *concert*. — sometimes used before another noun ▪ a live *concert* performance ▪ a *concert* pianist ▪ a *concert* hall

in concert **1** *formal* : TOGETHER ▪ The FBI and the local police acted *in concert* to solve the murder. — often + *with* ▪ The FBI acted *in concert with* the local police to solve the murder. **2** : performing at a concert ▪ I went to hear them *in concert*. [=in a public performance]

con·cert·ed /kən'sətəd/ *adj, always used before a noun* : done in a planned and deliberate way usually by several or many people ▪ They made a *concerted* effort to make her feel welcome. ▪ a *concerted* action/campaign ▪ a *concerted* attack

con·cert·goer /'kɑ:nsət,gowə/ *noun, pl* **-goers** [*count*] : a person who often goes to concerts or who is at a particular concert ▪ a large crowd of *concertgoers*

[1]con·cer·ti·na /,kɑ:nsə'ti:nə/ *noun, pl* **-nas** [*count*] : a musical instrument that resembles a small accordion and that is played by pressing the ends together

[2]concertina *verb* **-nas**; **-naed**; **-na·ing** [*no obj*] *Brit* : to fold or collapse together ▪ The car *concertinaed* on impact.

con·cert·mas·ter /'kɑ:nsət,mæstə, *Brit* 'kɒnsət,mɑ:stə/ *noun, pl* **-ters** [*count*] *chiefly US* : a musician who is the leading violin player and the assistant conductor of an orchestra — called also (*Brit*) *leader*

con·cer·to /kən'ʧeə,toʊ/ *noun, pl* **-ti** /-,ti:/ *or* **-tos** [*count*] : a piece of music for one or more main instruments with an orchestra ▪ a violin *concerto*

con·ces·sion /kən'sɛʃən/ *noun, pl* **-sions**

1 [*count*] : the act of conceding something: such as **a** : the act of giving up something or doing something in order to reach agreement ▪ The company has been unwilling to ***make concessions*** (to the strikers) during negotiations. **b** : the act of admitting that you have been defeated in a contest ▪ We are waiting for his *concession* of the election. ▪ The candidate made an emotional ***concession speech*** when it was clear that he had lost.

2 [*count*] : something that you allow or do to end a conflict or reach an agreement ▪ The strikers have won/gained/secured some important/major *concessions* from the company.

3 [*count*] : something that is done because a particular situation makes it necessary or desirable — + *to* ▪ Her sensible shoes are a *concession to* comfort. [=she wears sensible shoes because they are comfortable] ▪ He takes afternoon naps now in/as a *concession to* his old age.

4 *US* **a** [*count*] : the right to sell something or do business on property that belongs to the government or to another company or person ▪ a mining *concession* **b** [*count*] : a small business or shop where things are sold in a public place (such as a sports stadium) ▪ He runs a *concession* that sells hot dogs and hamburgers at the ballpark. ▪ We got hot dogs at the ***concession stand***. **c** ***concessions*** [*plural*] : things sold at a concession stand ▪ He has a license to sell *concessions* at the ballpark.

5 [*count*] *Brit* : a special lower price or rate ▪ tax *concessions* [=tax breaks] ▪ student *concessions* [=*discounts*]

con·ces·sion·aire /kən,sɛʃə'neə/ *noun, pl* **-aires** [*count*] : a person or business that has been given the right to sell something on property owned by someone else : a person or business that has been given a concession (sense 4a)

conch /'kɑ:ŋk, 'kɑ:nʧ/ *noun, pl* **conchs** /'kɑ:ŋks/ *or* **conch·es** /'kɑ:nʧəz/ [*count*] : a type of shellfish that lives in a large shell which has the form of a spiral; *also* : the shell of a conch

con·cierge /,kɑ:nsi'eəʒ/ *noun, pl* **-cierg·es** [*count*]

1 : a person in an apartment building especially in France who takes care of the building and checks the people who enter and leave

2 *chiefly US* : an employee at a hotel whose job is to provide help and information to the people staying at the hotel

con·cil·i·ate /kən'sɪli,eɪt/ *verb* **-ates**; **-at·ed**; **-at·ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to make (someone) more friendly or less angry ▪ The company's attempts to *conciliate* the strikers have failed.

– con·cil·i·a·tion /kən,sɪli'eɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] **– con·cil·i·a·tor** /kən'sɪli,eɪtə/ *noun, pl* **-tors** [*count*]

con·cil·ia·to·ry /kən'sɪlijə,tori, *Brit* kən'sɪliətri/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : intended to make someone less angry ▪ a *conciliatory* note/message/statement ▪ She tried to sound *conciliatory* in discussing the current controversy.

con·cise /kən'saɪs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : using few words : not including extra or unnecessary information ▪ a clear and *concise* account of the accident ▪ a *concise* summary ▪ a *concise* definition

– con·cise·ly *adv* **– con·cise·ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

synonyms CONCISE, TERSE, SUCCINCT, LACONIC, and PITHY mean expressing or stating an idea by using only a few words. CONCISE is the most general of these words and suggests a lack of extra or unnecessary information. ▪ She provided a *concise* description of the problem. TERSE suggests that you are using very few words in a way that may seem rude. ▪ "I'm not interested" was his *terse* reply. SUCCINCT suggests that the words you use are clear and helpful in explaining something. ▪ The article provides a *succinct* overview of the region's history. LACONIC suggests the use of words that may seem rude, indifferent, or mysterious. ▪ an aloof and *laconic* stranger ▪ She is known for her *laconic* style of writing. PITHY suggests the skillful or meaningful use of a small number of words. ▪ a comedy sharpened by *pithy* one-liners ▪ *pithy* prose

con·clave /'kɑ:n,kleɪv/ *noun, pl* **-claves** [*count*] *formal* : a private or secret meeting or group ▪ a *conclave* of bishops

con·clude /kən'klu:d/ *verb* **-cludes**; **-clud·ed**; **-clud·ing**

1 a [*no obj*] : to stop or finish : to come to an end ▪ The investigation has not yet *concluded*. : to end in a particular way or with a particular action ▪ The meeting *concluded* at noon. ▪ The chairman *concluded* by wishing us all a happy holiday. **b** [+ *obj*] : to cause (something) to stop or finish ▪ *conclude* [=*end*] a speech : to end (something) in a particular way or with a particular action ▪ We *concluded* the meeting on a happy note. ▪ The chairman *concluded* his speech by wishing us all a happy holiday.

2 [+ *obj*] : to form or state (an opinion) : to decide (something) after a period of thought or research ▪ We *conclude* from our review of the evidence that they are right. ▪ Many studies have *concluded* that smoking is dangerous. ▪ The speech, many historians *concluded*, was the most important of his career.

3 [+ *obj*] : to complete (something, such as a business deal) : to bring about (something) as a result ▪ Their effort to *conclude* an agreement was a success. ▪ *conclude* a sale

concluding *adj* : coming at the end of something : FINAL ▪ the book's *concluding* chapter ▪ the *concluding* [=*last*] days of the campaign ▪ a *concluding* remark

con·clu·sion /kən'klu:ʒən/ *noun, pl* **-sions**

1 [*count*] : a final decision or judgment : an opinion or decision that is formed after a period of thought or research ▪ What is your *conclusion*? [=what do you conclude?] ▪ The evidence does not support the report's *conclusions*. ▪ The evidence points/leads to the inescapable *conclusion* that she was negligent. ▪ The logical/obvious *conclusion* is that she was negligent. ▪ What led/brought you to that *conclusion*? ▪ After thinking about it, we ***came to the conclusion*** [=we decided] that we shouldn't go. ▪ Scientists haven't yet ***reached a conclusion*** [=made a judgment/decision] on/about the causes of this illness. ▪ They haven't yet ***arrived at a conclusion***. ▪ Is it possible to ***draw conclusions*** [=make judgments] from this evidence? ✧ To ***jump/leap to conclusions*** is to make judgments too quickly before knowing all the facts. ▪ The evidence suggests that he's to blame, but let's be careful not to *jump to conclusions*. He may have a good explanation for what happened. ▪ We should hear his explanation before we ***jump to the conclusion*** that he's to blame.

2 [*count*] : the last part of something : END — usually singular ▪ Many people were upset at the *conclusion* of the meeting. [=when the meeting concluded/ended] ▪ a satisfactory *conclusion* to the negotiations ▪ The *conclusion* of her speech contained some surprising news. ▪ The strike has finally ***reached its conclusion***. [=has finally ended] ▪ At this point, his victory seems to be a ***foregone conclusion***. [=his victory seems certain; there seems to be no doubt that he will win]

3 : the act of concluding or finishing something or the state of being finished [*singular*] We had hoped for a quick *conclusion* of/to the war. [=had hoped that the war would end quickly] ▪ The case was finally ***brought to a conclusion*** [=was finally concluded] last week. [*noncount*] the *conclusion* of a business deal ▪ The case was finally ***brought to conclusion*** last week.

in conclusion — used to introduce the final comments at the end of a speech or a piece of writing ▪ *In conclusion*, I would like to thank you for inviting me to speak tonight.

con•clu•sive /kənˈklu:sɪv/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : showing that something is certainly true ▪ *conclusive* evidence/proof — opposite INCONCLUSIVE
– **con•clu•sive•ly** *adv* ▪ They proved *conclusively* that they can compete with the best teams. – **con•clu•sive•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

con•coct /kənˈkɑ:kt/ *verb* **-cocts**; **-coct•ed**; **-coct•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to make (a food or drink) by mixing different things together ▪ The drink was first *concocted* by a bartender in New York. ▪ She *concocted* a stew from the leftovers.
2 : to invent or develop (a plan, story, etc.) especially in order to trick or deceive someone ▪ They had *concocted* [=*devised*] a scheme/plan to steal money from the company. ▪ He *concocted* [=*fabricated*, *invented*] an elaborate excuse for why he couldn't come in to work today.

con•coc•tion /kənˈkɑ:kʃən/ *noun*, *pl* **-tions** [*count*] : something (such as a food or drink) that is made by mixing together different things ▪ Would you like to try my new *concoction*?

[1]con•com•i•tant /kənˈkɑ:mətənt/ *adj*, *formal* : happening at the same time as something else ▪ The drug's risks increase with the *concomitant* use of alcohol. — often + *with* ▪ changes that are *concomitant with* population growth
– **con•com•i•tant•ly** *adv*

[2]concomitant *noun*, *pl* **-tants** [*count*] *formal* : something that happens at the same time as something else : a condition that is associated with some other condition ▪ hunger, a lack of education, and other *concomitants* of poverty

con•cord /ˈkɑ:nˌkoɚd/ *noun* [*noncount*]
1 *formal* : a state in which people or things agree with each other and exist together in a peaceful way ▪ They lived in peace and *concord*. [=*harmony*]
2 *grammar* : a state in which the different parts of a sentence or phrase agree with each other ▪ grammatical *concord* ▪ subject and verb *concord* [=(more commonly) *agreement*]

con•cord•ance /kənˈkoɚdəns/ *noun*, *pl* **-anc•es**
1 [*noncount*] *formal* : a state in which things agree and do not conflict with each other ▪ There is little *concordance* between the two studies. ▪ The witness's testimony was not ***in concordance with*** [=did not agree with] the rest of the evidence.
2 [*count*] : an alphabetical list of all of the words in a book or in a set of works written by an author ▪ a *concordance* of Shakespeare's plays

con•cord•ant /kənˈkoɚdənt/ *adj*, *formal* : in agreement : having the same characteristics ▪ All three tests have *concordant* results. — often + *with* ▪ His views are *concordant with* those of the president.

con•course /ˈkɑ:nˌkoɚs/ *noun*, *pl* **-cours•es** [*count*] : a large open space or hall in a public building ▪ the *concourse* of the bus terminal ▪ an airport *concourse*

[1]con•crete /ˈkɑ:nˌkri:t/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a hard, strong material that is used for building and made by mixing cement, sand, and broken rocks with water ▪ slabs of *concrete* — see also REINFORCED CONCRETE

[2]con•crete /kɑnˈkri:t/ *adj*
1 : made of concrete ▪ a *concrete* floor/wall ▪ *concrete* blocks ▪ *concrete* structures
2 [*more* ~; *most* ~] : relating to or involving specific people, things, or actions rather than general ideas or qualities ▪ It's helpful to have *concrete* examples of how words are used in context. ▪ The police suspected that he was guilty, but they had no *concrete* evidence against him. [=the police had no clear and definite proof that he committed the crime] ▪ *concrete* facts ▪ Does anyone have any *concrete* [=*specific*] suggestions for how we can fix this? ▪ We hope the meetings will produce *concrete* results. — opposite ABSTRACT
– **con•crete•ly** *adv* ▪ Countries must deal with the problem more *concretely*. [=countries must develop more specific ideas for how they will deal with the problem] – **con•crete•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

[3]con•crete /ˈkɑ:nˌkri:t/ *verb* **-cretes**; **-cret•ed**; **-cret•ing** [+ *obj*] *Brit* : to cover or form (something) with concrete ▪ They *concreted* (over) their drive.

concrete jungle *noun*, *pl* ~ **jungles** [*count*] *informal* : a modern city or part of a city regarded as an unpleasant place filled with large, ugly buildings — usually singular ▪ I finally got out of the *concrete jungle* and moved to the country.

concrete mixer *noun*, *pl* ~ **-ers** [*count*] *Brit* : CEMENT MIXER

con•cu•bine /ˈkɑ:nkjʊˌbaɪn/ *noun*, *pl* **-bines** [*count*] : an unmarried woman who has sex with a man and lives with the man and his wife or wives ✧ *Concubines* were common in many different societies in the past. ▪ the king's *concubines*

con•cur /kənˈkɚ/ *verb* **-curs**; **-curred**; **-cur•ring** [*no obj*] *formal* : to agree with someone or something ▪ We *concur* that more money should be spent on education. ▪ "I think more time is needed." "I *concur*." — often + *with* ▪ She *concurred with* the judge's ruling. = She *concurred with* the judge.

con•cur•rence /kənˈkɚəns/ *noun*, *pl* **-renc•es** *formal*
1 [*noncount*] : the state of agreeing with someone or something : AGREEMENT ▪ The bill was passed with the full *concurrence* of the Senate. [=everyone in the Senate agreed to pass the bill]
2 [*count*] : a situation in which two or more things happen at the same time : a situation in which things are concurrent — usually singular ▪ an unlikely *concurrence* of events

con•cur•rent /kənˈkɚənt/ *adj*, *formal* : happening at the same time ▪ the *concurrent* use of two medications ▪ He's currently serving two *concurrent* life sentences for murder.
– **con•cur•rent•ly** *adv* ▪ The two sentences will be served *concurrently*.

con•cuss /kənˈkʌs/ *verb* **-cuss•es**; **-cussed**; **-cuss•ing** [+ *obj*] : to cause (someone) to suffer a concussion — often used as *(be) concussed* ▪ He lay *concussed* on the ground.

con•cus•sion /kənˈkʌʃən/ *noun*, *pl* **-sions** : an injury to the brain that is caused by something hitting the head very hard [*count*] (*US*) ▪ She suffered a severe *concussion* after falling on the ice. [*noncount*] (*Brit*) ▪ He went to hospital with *concussion*.

con•demn /kənˈdɛm/ *verb* **-demns**; **-demned**; **-demn•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to say in a strong and definite way that someone or something is bad or wrong ▪ We strongly *condemn* this attack against our allies. ▪ The government *condemns* all acts of terrorism. ▪ The country *condemns* the use of violence on prisoners. ▪ The school *condemns* cheating, and any student caught cheating will be expelled. — often + *for* ▪ People are *condemning* him *for* supporting the old government. ▪ Voters *condemned* her *for* lying about her past. — often + *as* ▪ They were *condemned as* criminals/heretics/rebels/traitors. ▪ The policy was *condemned as* racist.
2 a : to give (someone) a usually severe punishment — usually + *to* ▪ The jury quickly convicted her and *condemned* [=*sentenced*] her *to* death. — often used as *(be) condemned* ▪ She *was condemned to* death. ▪ a *condemned* man [=a man who has been sentenced to death] **b** : to cause (someone) to suffer or live in difficult or unpleasant conditions — + *to* ▪ His lack of education *condemned* him *to* a life of poverty. — often used as *(be) condemned* ▪ She *was condemned to* [=forced to live] a life of loneliness and suffering.
3 : to close (a building, house, etc.) for not being safe or clean enough for people to use ▪ City officials *condemned* our apartment building and forced us to leave. — often used as *(be) condemned* ▪ The houses *were condemned* after floods caused extensive damage. ▪ The *condemned* building was torn down.

con•dem•na•tion /ˌkɑ:ndəmˈneɪʃən/ *noun*, *pl* **-tions** : a statement or expression of very strong and definite criticism or disapproval [*noncount*] The plan has drawn *condemnation* from both sides. [*count*] The government's statement was a *condemnation* of all acts of terrorism.

con•den•sa•tion /ˌkɑ:ndənˈseɪʃən/ *noun*, *pl* **-tions**
1 [*noncount*] : small drops of water that form on a cold surface ▪ When we heat the house in the winter, *condensation* forms on the windows. ▪ *Condensation* dripped from the air conditioner.
2 [*noncount*] *technical* : the process by which a gas cools and becomes a liquid ▪ the processes of evaporation and *condensation*
3 a [*noncount*] : the act or process of making something (such as a piece of writing) shorter : the act or process of condensing something ▪ The editor found *condensation* of the play very difficult. **b** [*count*] : a piece of writing that has been made shorter : a condensed piece of writing ▪ a *condensation* of one of Shakespeare's plays

con•dense /kənˈdɛns/ *verb* **-dens•es**; **-densed**; **-dens•ing**
1 [+ *obj*] : to make (something) shorter or smaller by removing parts that are less important ▪ The information is collect-

ed and then passed on to the CEO in *condensed* form. ▪ a *condensed* [=*abridged*] version of the story — often + *to* or *into* ▪ We've *condensed* the most important news down *to* a few paragraphs. ▪ Every week, they *condense* several hours of videotape *into* a one half-hour TV show. ▪ The book *condenses* nearly 50 years of history *into* 200 pages.

2 [*no obj*] : to change from a gas into a liquid ▪ The cooler temperatures cause the gas to *condense into* a liquid. ▪ Moisture in the air *condenses* to form tiny drops of water.

3 [+ *obj*] : to remove water from (something) to make it thicker ▪ *Condense* the milk by cooking it slowly. ▪ a can of ***condensed soup*** [=soup that has had much of the water removed and that is served by heating it with milk or water]

condensed milk *noun* [*noncount*] : canned milk with sugar added and much of the water removed ▪ a can of sweetened *condensed milk* — compare EVAPORATED MILK

con•dens•er /kən'dɛnsɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *technical*

1 : a device used for changing a gas into a liquid ▪ a steam *condenser*

2 : a device used for storing electrical energy

con•de•scend /ˌkɑ:ndɪ'sɛnd/ *verb* **-scends**; **-scend•ed**; **-scend•ing** [*no obj*] *formal + disapproving*

1 : to show that you believe you are more intelligent or better than other people ▪ The author treats her readers as equals and never *condescends* (to them).

2 : to do something that you usually do not do because you believe you are too important to do it — usually followed by *to + verb* ▪ She *condescends to speak* to me only when she needs something.

condescending *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *disapproving* : showing that you believe you are more intelligent or better than other people ▪ She spoke to us in a *condescending* [=*patronizing*] tone. ▪ His comments were offensive and *condescending* to us. ▪ a *condescending* attitude

– **con•de•scend•ing•ly** *adv*

con•de•scen•sion /ˌkɑ:ndɪ'sɛnʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the attitude or behavior of people who believe they are more intelligent or better than other people ▪ The author discusses the politics of the region without *condescension*. [=without suggesting that he is more intelligent than the readers]

con•di•ment /'kɑ:ndəmənt/ *noun, pl* **-ments** [*count*] : something (such as salt, mustard, or ketchup) that is added to food to give it more flavor

[1]con•di•tion /kən'dɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**

1 [*noncount*] : a way of living or existing ▪ Happiness is the state or *condition* of being happy. ▪ The need to be loved is simply part of ***the human condition***. [=being human]

2 : the state in which something exists : the physical state of something [*count*] The museum restores paintings to their original *conditions*. [=the museum makes the paintings look the way they were originally] [*noncount*] The car is in excellent/perfect (physical) *condition*. ▪ Both clocks are still in good working *condition*. [=both clocks still work well]

3 [*singular*] : the physical or mental state of a person or animal ▪ The driver was taken to the hospital where he was reported to be in (a) good/stable/critical *condition*. ▪ Their weakened *condition* makes them more likely to get sick. ▪ He can't drive in that *condition*. [=he is too drunk, ill, upset, etc., to drive] ▪ The players are all in excellent physical *condition*. [=*shape*] ✧ If you are ***in no condition to do something***, you are not physically or mentally able to do it. ▪ I was *in no condition to go* to work yesterday. [=I was too sick to go to work] ▪ He is *in no condition to drive*. [=he is too drunk, ill, etc., to drive] ✧ If you are ***in condition*** or ***in good/excellent (etc.) condition***, you are strong and healthy. ▪ She was running every evening to stay/keep *in condition*. ▪ The players are all *in good condition*. ✧ If you are ***out of condition*** or ***in poor/bad (etc.) condition***, you are not strong and not ready to work or play a sport. ▪ He's overweight and *out of condition*. ▪ She hasn't been taking care of herself and is *in poor condition*.

4 [*count*] : a sickness or disease that a person has for a long time ▪ He was born with a serious heart *condition*. ▪ hereditary/genetic *conditions* ▪ The *condition* is often fatal. ▪ Her medical *condition* made it impossible for her to walk.

5 *conditions* [*plural*] **a** : the situation in which someone or something lives, works, etc. ▪ The organization is working to improve *conditions* for the poor by providing them with jobs, health care, and better housing. ▪ They need better living *conditions*. ▪ Companies must provide safe working *conditions* for their employees. ▪ This type of plant can live in very dry *conditions*. ▪ Both teams had trouble with the difficult playing *conditions*. ▪ dangerous driving *conditions* **b** : the things that affect the way something is or happens : the characteristics of a situation ▪ The President discussed the social and economic *conditions* of the country. ▪ New policies have made *conditions* more favorable for small businesses. ▪ Scientists controlled the *conditions* of the experiment. ▪ Under certain *conditions* [=in certain circumstances], it is possible to take the test at a later date. ▪ I will only take the job under the right set of *conditions*. **c** : the type of weather that occurs at a particular time ▪ weather/atmospheric *conditions* ▪ The area is experiencing cold/dry *conditions*. ▪ severe drought *conditions*

6 [*count*] : something that you must do or accept in order for something to happen ▪ The buyer must meet the terms and *conditions* of the contract. ▪ It was a *condition* of employment that I join the union. [=I had to join the union in order to get the job] ▪ You can go ***on one condition***: you have to finish your homework. [=you can go only if you finish your homework] ✧ If you agree to do something ***on (the) condition that*** something happens, you will do it only if that thing happens. ▪ She spoke *on the condition that* she not be identified. = She spoke ***on condition of anonymity***. ▪ He taught me the trick *on condition that* I never tell anyone else how to do it.

7 [*count*] : something that must happen or exist in order for something else to happen — usually + *for* or *of* ▪ Hard work is a necessary *condition for/of* success.

under no condition — used to say that something is definitely not allowed ▪ *Under no condition* are you to answer the phone. [=you are not to answer the phone at all]

[2]condition *verb* **-tions**; **-tioned**; **-tion•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to train or influence (a person or an animal) to do something or to think or behave in a certain way because of a repeated experience — often used as *(be) conditioned* ▪ an experiment in which mice are *conditioned* to press a button in order to receive food ▪ People have *been conditioned* to expect immediate results. ▪ *conditioned* behavior/responses/reflexes

2 : to make (something, such as hair or leather) softer and less dry by applying a liquid ▪ She shampoos and *conditions* [=uses conditioner on] her hair daily.

be conditioned on/upon *formal* — used to say that something will happen only if something else also happens ▪ Payment *is conditioned on/upon* completion of the project. [=if you complete the project, you will be paid]

[1]con•di•tion•al /kən'dɪʃənl/ *adj*

1 — used to describe something (such as an agreement) that will happen only if something else also happens ▪ She had a *conditional* agreement with her father that she could use the car if she paid for the gas. ▪ a *conditional* sale of land — often + *on* or *upon* ▪ Our agreement is *conditional on/upon* your raising the needed money. — compare UNCONDITIONAL

2 *grammar* : showing or used to show that something is true or happens only if something else is true or happens ▪ "If she speaks, you must listen" is a *conditional* sentence. ▪ The sentence contains the *conditional* clause "if she speaks."

– **con•di•tion•al•ly** *adv* ▪ The company has *conditionally* agreed to sell 20 percent of its stock.

[2]conditional *noun, pl* **-als** *grammar*

1 [*count*] : a word, clause, or sentence that shows that something is true or happens only if something else is true or happens ▪ The clause "if she speaks" is a *conditional*.

2 *the conditional* : the mood or form that is used to say that something is true or happens only if something else is true or happens ▪ *The conditional* is often marked by the word "if."

con•di•tion•er /kən'dɪʃənɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count, noncount*]

1 : a thick liquid that you put on your hair after washing it to make it softer and less dry

2 *Brit* : FABRIC SOFTENER

– see also AIR CONDITIONER

con•di•tion•ing /kən'dɪʃənɪŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 *chiefly US* : the process of becoming stronger and healthier by following a regular exercise program and diet ▪ the team's excellent physical *conditioning* ▪ aerobic *conditioning* [=*training*] — often used before another noun ▪ After a three week *conditioning* program, he was ready to compete. ▪ strength and *conditioning* workouts

2 : the act or process of training a person or animal to do something or to behave in a certain way in a particular situation ▪ social *conditioning* ▪ With the proper *conditioning*, the horse will learn to trust and obey its handler.

– see also AIR-CONDITIONING

con•do /ˈkɑːndoʊ/ *noun, pl* **-dos** [*count*] *US* : CONDOMINIUM

con•do•lence /kənˈdoʊləns/ *noun, pl* **-lenc•es** : a feeling or expression of sympathy and sadness especially when someone is suffering because of the death of a family member, a friend, etc. [*noncount*] The governor issued a statement of *condolence* to the victims' families. ▪ a letter of *condolence* [*plural*] We wish to express/offer/send our sincere *condolences* to your family. ▪ Please accept my *condolences*.

con•dom /ˈkɑːndəm/ *noun, pl* **-doms** [*count*] : a thin rubber covering that a man wears on his penis during sex in order to prevent a woman from becoming pregnant or to prevent the spread of diseases — called also *rubber*, (*Brit*) *sheath*

con•do•min•i•um /ˌkɑːndəˈmɪnijəm/ *noun, pl* **-ums** [*count*] *chiefly US*

1 : a room or set of rooms that is owned by the people who live there and that is part of a larger building containing other similar sets of rooms — compare APARTMENT

2 : a building that contains condominiums

con•done /kənˈdoʊn/ *verb* **-dones**; **-doned**; **-don•ing** [+ *obj*] : to forgive or approve (something that is considered wrong) : to allow (something that is considered wrong) to continue ▪ a government that has been accused of *condoning* racism — often used in negative statements ▪ We cannot *condone* [=*excuse*] that kind of behavior.

con•dor /ˈkɑːnˌdoɚ/ *noun, pl* **-dors** [*count*] : a very large black bird from South America or a related bird from North America

con•du•cive /kənˈduːsɪv, *Brit* kənˈdjuːsɪv/ *adj, not used before a noun* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* : making it easy, possible, or likely for something to happen or exist — + *to* ▪ The school tries to create an atmosphere (that is) *conducive to* learning. [=an atmosphere that makes learning easier] ▪ Hot, dry weather is *conducive to* the spread of forest fires.

[1]con•duct /kənˈdʌkt/ *verb* **-ducts**; **-duct•ed**; **-duct•ing**

1 [+ *obj*] : to plan and do (something, such as an activity) ▪ The police are *conducting* an investigation into last week's robbery. ▪ scientists *conducting* research/experiments ▪ I like the way the company *conducts* business. ▪ The magazine *conducted* a survey. ▪ Who will be *conducting* the meeting? ▪ The committee is expected to *conduct* hearings in May.

2 : to direct the performance of (musicians or singers) [+ *obj*] He *conducts* the choir with great skill and emotion. ▪ *conducting* the music of Mozart [*no obj*] She *conducts* extremely well.

3 *always followed by a preposition or adverb* [+ *obj*] *formal* : to guide or lead (someone) through or around a place ▪ Our guide slowly *conducted* us through the museum. ▪ Our guide *conducted* us along the path.

4 [+ *obj*] *technical* : to allow (heat or electricity) to move from one place to another ▪ Metals *conduct* electricity well.

conduct yourself : to behave especially in a public or formal situation ▪ The way you *conduct yourself* in an interview often determines whether or not you get the job. ▪ She *conducted herself* as a professional and earned the respect of her coworkers. ▪ I don't approve of the way he *conducts himself*.

[2]con•duct /ˈkɑːnˌdʌkt/ *noun* [*noncount*] *somewhat formal*

1 : the way that a person behaves in a particular place or situation ▪ A panel investigated her *conduct* and she was subsequently fired. ▪ His personal *conduct* reflected poorly on the company. [=he behaved in a way that made the company look bad] ▪ professional/sexual *conduct*

2 : the way that something is managed or directed — + *of* ▪ Laws and regulations control the *conduct* [=*management*] *of* business and trade.

con•duc•tion /kənˈdʌkʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] *technical* : the movement of heat or electricity through something (such as metal or water) ▪ the *conduction* of electricity

con•duc•tiv•i•ty /ˌkɑːnˌdʌkˈtɪvəti/ *noun* [*noncount*] *technical* : the ability to move heat or electricity from one place to another : the power to conduct heat or electricity ▪ measuring the *conductivity* of different metals

– con•duc•tive /kənˈdʌktɪv/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ Copper is a *conductive* material.

con•duc•tor /kənˈdʌktɚ/ *noun, pl* **-tors** [*count*]

1 : a person who stands in front of people while they sing or play musical instruments and directs their performance

2 : a person who collects money or tickets from passengers on a train or bus — called also (*Brit*) *guard*

3 : a material or object that allows electricity or heat to move through it ▪ Metal is a good *conductor* of electricity.

con•duc•tress /kənˈdʌktrəs/ *noun, pl* **-tress•es** [*count*] : a woman who is a conductor

con•duit /ˈkɑːnˌduːwət, *Brit* ˈkɒndɪt/ *noun, pl* **-duits** [*count*]

1 *technical* : a pipe or tube through which something (such as water or wire) passes

2 *formal* : someone or something that is used as a way of sending something (such as information or money) from one place or person to another ▪ The council serves as a *conduit* [=*channel*] of information between the school and the children's parents. — often + *for* ▪ a port that has been a *conduit for* the trade of illegal weapons

[1]cone /ˈkoʊn/ *noun, pl* **cones** [*count*]

1 : a shape that has a pointed top and sides that form a circle at the bottom

2 : a hard and dry part that is the fruit of a pine tree or other evergreen plant and contains many seeds

3 a : something that looks like a cone ▪ He scooped out the popcorn with a paper *cone*. — see also TRAFFIC CONE **b** : the top of a volcano

4 : a thin crisp cookie that is usually shaped like a cone and that is used to hold ice cream ▪ Would you like your ice cream in a dish or a *cone*? ; *also* : a cone filled with ice cream ▪ I'd like two ***ice-cream cones*** please. — see also SNOW CONE

[2]cone *verb* **cones**; **coned**; **coning**

cone off [*phrasal verb*] ***cone off (something)*** *Brit* : to close off (a road or part of a road) with traffic cones ▪ The road was partially *coned off* while the repairs were being made.

con•fec•tion /kənˈfɛkʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count*] : a very sweet food ▪ an assortment of delicious cakes and other *confections* — often + *of* ▪ a *confection of* cream, chocolate, and nuts — sometimes used figuratively ▪ a delightful literary *confection*

con•fec•tion•er /kənˈfɛkʃənɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a person or business that makes or sells confections (such as chocolates and candies)

confectioners' sugar *noun* [*noncount*] *US* : POWDERED SUGAR

con•fec•tion•ery /kənˈfɛkʃəˌneri, *Brit* kənˈfɛkʃənri/ *noun* [*noncount*] *somewhat formal* : sweet foods (such as fudge and candy) — often used before another noun ▪ a *confectionery* shop

con•fed•er•a•cy /kənˈfɛdərəsi/ *noun, pl* **-cies**

1 [*count*] : a group of people, countries, organizations, etc., that are joined together in some activity or effort ▪ a *confederacy* of native tribes

2 ***the Confederacy*** : the group of 11 southern states that separated themselves from the U.S. during the American Civil War ▪ the last state to join *the Confederacy*

con•fed•er•ate /kənˈfɛdərət/ *noun, pl* **-ates** [*count*]

1 *formal* : a person who helps someone do something ▪ He turned to his *confederates* [=*allies, accomplices*] for help.

2 ***Confederate*** : a soldier, citizen, or supporter of the Confederacy during the American Civil War ▪ the Yankees and the *Confederates*

Con•fed•er•ate /kənˈfɛdərət/ *adj* : of or relating to the Confederacy of the American Civil War ▪ *Confederate* states/soldiers/money ▪ the *Confederate* flag/army

con•fed•er•a•tion /kənˌfɛdəˈreɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count*] : a group of people, countries, organizations, etc., that are joined together in some activity or effort ▪ a loose *confederation* [=*coalition*] of businesses

con•fer /kənˈfɚ/ *verb* **-fers**; **-ferred**; **-fer•ring** *formal*

1 [*no obj*] : to discuss something important in order to make a decision ▪ The lawyer and judge *conferred* about the ruling. — often + *with* ▪ I'll *confer with* [=*consult*] my wife and let you know what we decide.

2 [+ *obj*] : to give (something, such as a degree, award, title, right, etc.) to someone or something — usually + *on* or *upon* ▪ The university will *confer* an honorary degree *on* the governor. ▪ The law *conferred upon* people over the age of 18 the right to vote.

con•fer•ee /ˌkɑːnfəˈriː/ *noun, pl* **-ees** [*count*] *US, formal* : someone who participates in a conference — usually plural ▪ *Conferees* from the Senate and the House will begin debating the issue next week.

con•fer•ence /ˈkɑːnfərəns/ *noun, pl* **-enc•es**

1 [*count*] : a formal meeting in which many people gather in order to talk about ideas or problems related to a particular topic (such as medicine or business) usually for several days ▪ The organization held/hosted its annual *conference* in New York this year. ▪ national *conferences* on women's health ▪ an

international peace *conference* [=a meeting in which leaders of many countries talk about peace] ▪ a *conference* of foreign ministers — sometimes used before another noun ▪ a *conference* center [=a large building where conferences are held]

2 : a formal meeting in which a small number of people talk about something [*count*] Our boss called a *conference* to discuss the new changes. [*noncount*] He spent an hour ***in conference*** with the president. — often used before another noun ▪ a *conference* room/table — see also CONFERENCE CALL, NEWS CONFERENCE, PRESS CONFERENCE

3 [*count*] *US* : a group of sports teams that play against each other and that are part of a larger league of teams ▪ a football *conference* ▪ the champions of the American Football *Conference* — often used before another noun ▪ the *conference* champions/championship

conference call *noun, pl* ~ **calls** [*count*] : a telephone call in which someone talks to several people at the same time

con·fer·ment /kənˈfɚmənt/ *noun* [*noncount*] *formal* : the act of giving something (such as a degree, award, title, or right) to someone : the act of conferring something ▪ the *conferment* of degrees/privileges

con·fess /kənˈfɛs/ *verb* **-fess·es; -fessed; -fess·ing**

1 : to admit that you did something wrong or illegal [*no obj*] He *confessed* after being questioned for many hours. — often + *to* ▪ He's still refusing to *confess to* the murder. ▪ No one *confessed to* taking the pen. ▪ She *confessed to* having lied to me in the past. [=she told me that she lied to me] [+ *obj*] She *confessed* [=*admitted*] that she stole the necklace. ▪ He willingly *confessed* his crime/guilt.

2 : to talk about or admit something that makes you embarrassed, ashamed, etc. [+ *obj*] He *confessed* (that) he got lost and had to ask for directions. ▪ I have to *confess* that I was afraid at first. ▪ I must *confess* [=I am a little embarrassed to say] that I know nothing about computers. ▪ He never *confessed* his love for her. [=he never told her that he loved her] [*no obj*] — usually + *to* ▪ She *confessed to* a love of trashy romance novels. [=she admitted that she loves trashy romance novels] ▪ I *confess to* being a little unsure about what to do.

3 : to tell (your sins) to God or to a priest [+ *obj*] I *confessed* my sins to the priest. [*no obj*] I haven't *confessed* [=gone to confession] in three months.

– confessed *adj* ▪ a *confessed* murderer — see also SELF-CONFESSED

con·fes·sion /kənˈfɛʃən/ *noun, pl* **-sions**

1 [*count*] : a written or spoken statement in which you say that you have done something wrong or committed a crime ▪ She went to the police station and made/gave a full *confession*. ▪ a written/signed *confession*

2 [*count*] : the act of telling people something that makes you embarrassed, ashamed, etc. ▪ I have a *confession* to make: I have never done this before. ▪ a *confession* of weakness/failure/error

3 a [*count*] : the act of telling your sins to God or to a priest ▪ The priest will hear *confessions* after mass today. **b** [*noncount*] : the activity of telling a priest your sins ▪ I haven't ***gone/been to confession*** in three years.

4 [*count*] : a formal statement in which you express your religious beliefs ▪ a *confession* of faith

[1]con·fes·sion·al /kənˈfɛʃənl/ *noun, pl* **-als** [*count*] : a private place inside a church where a priest hears confessions

[2]confessional *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : telling private information about a person's life ▪ *confessional* interviews of famous actors ▪ *confessional* poetry/writing

con·fes·sor /kənˈfɛsɚ/ *noun, pl* **-sors** [*count*] : a priest who listens to a person's confession

con·fet·ti /kənˈfɛti/ *noun* [*noncount*] : small pieces of brightly colored paper that people often throw at celebrations (such as weddings and parties)

con·fi·dant /ˈkɑːnfəˌdɑːnt/ *noun, pl* **-dants** [*count*] : a trusted friend you can talk to about personal and private things ▪ He is a trusted *confidant* of the president.

con·fi·dante /ˈkɑːnfəˌdɑːnt/ *noun, pl* **-dantes** [*count*] : a woman who is a trusted friend : a female confidant ▪ She was her closest friend and *confidante*.

con·fide /kənˈfaɪd/ *verb* **-fides; -fid·ed; -fid·ing** [+ *obj*] : to tell (something that is secret or private) to someone you trust ▪ He *confided* that he was very unhappy with his job. — often + *to* ▪ She *confided to* me that she couldn't read. ▪ He *confided* his secret *to* a friend. — see also CONFIDING

confide in [*phrasal verb*] ***confide in (someone)*** : to tell personal and private things to (someone) ▪ She often *confides in* me. ▪ He had no one to *confide in*.

con·fi·dence /ˈkɑːnfədəns/ *noun, pl* **-denc·es**

1 [*noncount*] : a feeling or belief that you can do something well or succeed at something ▪ The class gave me more *confidence*. ▪ He lacked the *confidence* to succeed. ▪ The experience gave her the *confidence* to start her own business. ▪ Good grades boosted/bolstered her *confidence*. ▪ It takes time to build/gain *confidence* when you are learning a new skill. ▪ He's brimming with *confidence*. = He's full of *confidence*. ▪ They have an air of *confidence* about them. — often + *in* ▪ He has a lot of *confidence in* himself. — see also SELF-CONFIDENCE

2 [*noncount*] : a feeling or belief that someone or something is good or has the ability to succeed at something ▪ The candidate has won/lost the *confidence* [=*trust*] of voters. ▪ She has done little to gain/earn their *confidence*. ▪ There is a recent increase in ***consumer confidence***. [=the good feelings that people have about the economy] — often + *in* ▪ They have complete/full *confidence in* their coach. ▪ His parents had *confidence in* their son's ability to succeed. ▪ The case inspired/restored *confidence in* our system of justice. ▪ Recent scandals have undermined *confidence in* the city's public officials. — see also VOTE OF CONFIDENCE, VOTE OF NO CONFIDENCE

3 [*noncount*] : the feeling of being certain that something will happen or that something is true ▪ School officials express *confidence* that the problem will soon be resolved. ▪ We still can't talk about the future with any degree of *confidence*. [=we don't know what will happen in the future] ▪ We have ***every confidence*** [=we are sure] that you'll make the right decision.

4 [*noncount*] : a relationship in which you tell personal and private information to someone ▪ Doctors cannot betray the *confidence* of their patients. [=cannot reveal their patients' personal information to other people] ▪ She accused him of a betrayal/breach of *confidence*. ▪ He told me ***in confidence*** that he didn't know how to read. ▪ Your personal information will be kept ***in strict/strictest confidence***. [=no one will be told your personal information] ✧ If you ***take someone into your confidence***, you tell someone secrets or private information about your life. ▪ She *took me into her confidence* and told me all about her health problems.

5 [*count*] : a secret that you tell someone you trust ▪ close friends sharing *confidences* ▪ She accused him of betraying a *confidence*. [=she said that he told her secret to other people]

confidence game *noun, pl* ~ **games** [*count*] *US* : [1]CON

confidence man *noun, pl* ~ **men** [*count*] *US* : CON ARTIST

confidence trick *noun, pl* ~ **tricks** [*count*] *Brit* : [1]CON

confidence trickster *noun, pl* ~ **-ers** [*count*] *Brit* : CON ARTIST

con·fi·dent /ˈkɑːnfədənt/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 a : having a feeling or belief that you can do something well or succeed at something : having confidence ▪ The class made me more *confident* (about myself). ▪ a *confident* young businesswoman ▪ I am *confident* about my ability to do the job. ▪ The players seem more relaxed and *confident* this season. ▪ He has become more *confident* in his Spanish-speaking skills. — see also OVERCONFIDENT, SELF-CONFIDENT **b** : showing that you have confidence ▪ a *confident* smile ▪ They have a *confident* air about them. ▪ His voice sounded *confident*.

2 *not used before a noun* : certain that something will happen or that something is true ▪ We are *confident* that conditions will improve soon. ▪ He seemed *confident* of success. [=sure that he would succeed]

– con·fi·dent·ly *adv* ▪ "I know the answer," she said *confidently*. ▪ We can *confidently* state that the product is safe.

con·fi·den·tial /ˌkɑːnfəˈdɛnʃəl/ *adj*

1 [*more* ~; *most* ~] : secret or private ▪ These documents are completely/strictly *confidential*. ▪ *confidential* medical records ▪ Someone was leaking *confidential* information [=telling secrets] to the press.

2 [*more* ~; *most* ~] : showing that you are saying something that is secret or private ▪ "I have something to tell you," John said in a *confidential* tone/voice. ▪ Her voice was quiet and *confidential*.

3 *always used before a noun* : trusted with secret or private information ▪ She worked as a *confidential* secretary to the mayor for many years.

– con·fi·den·tial·ly *adv* ▪ Students can *confidentially* report any problems they see in their schools. ▪ He leaned

forward *confidentially* and began telling his story. ▪ *Confidentially*, I don't think she's very good at her job.

con•fi•den•ti•al•i•ty /ˌkɑːnfəˌdɛnʃiˈæləti/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the quality or state of being private or confidential ▪ All medical records are treated with complete *confidentiality*. [=are kept completely private] ▪ The doctor committed a ***breach of confidentiality***. [=the doctor told another person private information about a patient]

C

con•fid•ing /kənˈfaɪdɪŋ/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : showing that you trust someone not to tell secret or private information ▪ He spoke in a *confiding* voice. ▪ They've developed a very *confiding* relationship over the years.
– **con•fid•ing•ly** *adv*

con•fig•u•ra•tion /kənˌfɪgjəˈreɪʃən, *Brit* kənˌfɪgəˈreɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count*]
1 : the way the parts of something are arranged ▪ a truck's gear *configuration* ▪ airplane seating *configurations* ▪ the *configuration* [=*layout*] of the room
2 *computers* : the way a computer system or program is prepared for a particular use ▪ We'll have to change the *configuration* of the system to accommodate the new server.

con•fig•ure /kənˈfɪgjɚ, *Brit* kənˈfɪgə/ *verb* **-ures**; **-ured**; **-ur•ing** [+ *obj*] *technical* : to arrange or prepare (something) so that it can be used ▪ The instructions tell you how to *configure* the kit correctly. ▪ The plane is *configured* for military use. ▪ *configure* a computer ▪ The system is *configured* [=*set up*] to allow access only to people who know the password.

con•fine /kənˈfaɪn/ *verb* **-fines**; **-fined**; **-fin•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to keep (someone or something) within limits : to prevent (someone or something) from going beyond a particular limit, area, etc. — usually + *to* ▪ Please *confine* [=*restrict, limit*] your comments *to* 200 words. ▪ The cancer was *confined to* the lung. [=the cancer was only in the lung; the cancer had not spread to any other parts of the body] ▪ We must *confine* ourselves *to* the agenda we've agreed on for this meeting. [=we must only talk about what is on the agenda] ▪ The town would like to *confine* commercial development *to* an area by the highway. ▪ Students need not *confine* themselves *to* a single area of study. ▪ The city's poverty is not *confined to* just one neighborhood.
2 : to keep (a person or animal) in a place (such as a prison) — usually used as *(be) confined* ▪ Violent criminals *are* sometimes *confined* for life. ▪ a camp where prisoners *were confined* during the war — often + *to* or *in* ▪ She *was confined to* a psychiatric hospital for a year. ▪ The bull *was confined in* a pen behind the barn.
3 : to force or cause (someone) to stay in something (such as a bed or wheelchair) — usually used as *(be) confined* ▪ I regularly visit a sick neighbor who *is confined* at home. [=who cannot leave home because of being sick] — often + *to* ▪ He *was confined to* a wheelchair. ▪ She *was confined to* bed for a week with the flu.

confined *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *of a space or area* : very small ▪ She gets uncomfortable in *confined* spaces.

con•fine•ment /kənˈfaɪnmənt/ *noun* [*noncount*]
1 : the act of confining someone or something : the state of being confined ▪ the *confinement* of violent criminals [=the act of keeping violent criminals in prison] ▪ years of *confinement* ▪ his *confinement* to a wheelchair [=his state of being forced to stay in a wheelchair] ▪ The dog was kept ***in confinement*** until it was determined to be healthy. — see also SOLITARY CONFINEMENT
2 *old-fashioned* : the time when a woman is giving birth to a baby ▪ He remained with his wife during her *confinement*.

con•fines /ˈkɑːnˌfaɪnz/ *noun* [*plural*] *formal* : the limits or edges of something ▪ He is probably somewhere within the *confines* [=(more commonly) *borders*] of the city. ▪ The children were told not to venture beyond the *confines* of the camp. ▪ There is no room for negotiation within the *confines* of this contract. ▪ the narrow *confines* of academia

confining *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : limiting or preventing movement or freedom ▪ She thinks the corporate world is dull and *confining*. [=*restrictive*] ▪ This coat feels too *confining*. [=*tight*]

con•firm /kənˈfɚm/ *verb* **-firms**; **-firmed**; **-firm•ing**
1 [+ *obj*] : to state or show that (something) is true or correct ▪ The tests *confirmed* the doctors' suspicions of cancer. ▪ The attack *confirmed* her worst fears about the neighborhood. ▪ Police would not *confirm* [=*verify*] reports of a shooting. ▪ The award *confirmed* her status as one of the great movie actresses. ▪ Medical tests *confirmed* (that) he did not have a heart attack.
2 : to tell someone that something has definitely happened or is going to happen : to make (something) definite or official [+ *obj*] The dentist's office called to *confirm* your appointment for tomorrow. ▪ Please *confirm* [=*acknowledge*] receipt of the shipment. ▪ *confirm* a hotel reservation [*no obj*] We have a reservation for you for tomorrow night. Please call to *confirm*.
3 [+ *obj*] *formal* : to make (something) stronger or more certain : to cause (someone) to believe (something) more strongly ▪ Her parents' attitude only *confirmed* [=*strengthened, reinforced*] her resolve to get her own apartment. — often + *in* ▪ She was *confirmed in* her determination to get a higher-paying job.
4 : to give official approval to (something or someone) [+ *obj*] They voted to *confirm* [=*ratify*] the treaty. ▪ The Senate has *confirmed* him as a Supreme Court justice. [*no obj*] The Senate is expected to vote to *confirm*.
5 [+ *obj*] : to make (someone) a full member of a church or synagogue : to administer confirmation to (someone) — usually used as *(be) confirmed* ▪ Our son will *be confirmed* in the spring. ▪ What year *were* you *confirmed*?
– **con•firm•able** /kənˈfɚməbəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ Reports of a battle in the city were not *confirmable* today. ▪ The judicial nominee should be easily *confirmable*.

con•fir•ma•tion /ˌkɑːnfɚˈmeɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**
1 [*noncount*] : proof which shows that something is true or correct ▪ Reporters awaited *confirmation* from the army about the battle. ▪ We don't have independent *confirmation* of the facts. ▪ Final *confirmation* came only after the investigation was completed. — often + *of* ▪ The customs officers will need to see *confirmation* [=*proof*] *of* your identity. ▪ *confirmation of* a scientific theory
2 : a response which shows that information is received and understood; *especially* : a response that makes a purchase, appointment, etc., definite or official [*count*] You will receive an e-mail *confirmation* of your order. [*noncount*] You will receive *confirmation* of your order by e-mail. ▪ waiting for written *confirmation*
3 [*noncount*] : the act of giving official approval to something or someone ▪ Many senators are opposed to his *confirmation* as a federal judge. — often used before another noun ▪ Senate *confirmation* hearings ▪ the *confirmation* process
4 : a ceremony in which someone becomes a full, adult member of a religion [*noncount*] They are preparing for *confirmation*. [*count*] He attended both of his children's *confirmations*.

con•firmed /kənˈfɚmd/ *adj, always used before a noun* : not likely to change ▪ a *confirmed* [=*habitual, chronic*] optimist ▪ a *confirmed* baseball fanatic ▪ a ***confirmed bachelor*** [=a man who seems happy to remain unmarried]

con•fis•cate /ˈkɑːnfəˌskeɪt/ *verb* **-cates**; **-cat•ed**; **-cat•ing** [+ *obj*] : to take (something) away from someone especially as punishment or to enforce the law or rules ▪ Guards *confiscated* knives and other weapons from the prisoners. ▪ The police have the authority to *confiscate* [=*seize*] the drug dealer's property. ▪ The teacher *confiscated* all cell phones for the duration of the field trip.
– **con•fis•ca•tion** /ˌkɑːnfəˈskeɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the *confiscation* of terrorists' assets

con•fla•gra•tion /ˌkɑːnfləˈgreɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count*] *formal*
1 : a large destructive fire ▪ a massive *conflagration*
2 : a war or conflict ▪ The treaty is the latest attempt to resolve the ten-year *conflagration*. ▪ a regional *conflagration*

[1]con•flict /ˈkɑːnˌflɪkt/ *noun, pl* **-flicts**
1 : a struggle for power, property, etc. [*count*] an armed *conflict* ▪ violent border *conflicts* ▪ a *conflict* between two gangs [*noncount*] years of armed *conflict* [=*battle*] ▪ recent violent *conflict* in the region ▪ *conflict* between (forces of) good and evil
2 : strong disagreement between people, groups, etc., that results in often angry argument [*noncount*] Everyone in my family always tries to avoid *conflict*. ▪ There was inevitable *conflict* over what to name the group. [*count*] They're having serious *conflicts* over the budget. ▪ A few students are being trained to resolve *conflicts* [=*arguments, disputes*] between other students.
3 : a difference that prevents agreement : disagreement between ideas, feelings, etc. [*count*] I don't see any *conflicts* between the theories. ▪ exploring the character's ***inner conflicts*** [=ideas, feelings, etc., that disagree with one another] [*noncount*] You'll need to resolve the *conflict* between your par-

ents' plans for you and your own ambitions. — see also CONFLICT OF INTEREST

4 [*count*] *chiefly US* : a situation in which you are unable to do something because there is something else you have already agreed to do at that same time ▪ He has a *conflict* and can't attend tomorrow's meeting. ▪ a scheduling *conflict*

come into conflict **1** : to be different in a way that prevents agreement ▪ Unfortunately, their goals for the project *came into conflict*. — often + *with* ▪ There are cases in which these rules *come into conflict with* [=*contradict*] one another. **2** : to enter a situation in which there is a struggle for power, property, etc. — often + *with* ▪ groups *coming into conflict with* neighboring tribes

in conflict **1** : different in a way that prevents agreement ▪ They're *in conflict* over which car to buy. [=they disagree about which car to buy] — usually + *with* ▪ The law is *in conflict with* [=does not agree with] the state's constitution. ▪ Her ideas were *in* direct *conflict with* those of her professor. **2** : in a struggle for power, property, etc. ▪ The two clans were *in* constant *conflict* (with one another).

²con•flict /kənˈflɪkt/ *verb* **-flicts**; **-flict•ed**; **-flict•ing** [*no obj*]

1 : to be different in a way that prevents agreement : to say or express opposite things ▪ Their versions of what happened *conflict*. [=do not agree] ▪ Their goals for the project *conflict*. [=*clash, disagree*] ▪ Reports *conflicted* on how many people were involved. — often + *with* ▪ His statement *conflicts with* the facts. ▪ Their research *conflicts with* [=*contradicts*] what other scientists have found.

2 : to happen at the same time as something else — usually + *with* ▪ The appointment *conflicts with* an important meeting I have to go to.

– conflicting *adj* ▪ We heard *conflicting* reports about how many people were involved. ▪ the candidates' *conflicting* views ▪ our *conflicting* schedules

con•flict•ed *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *chiefly US* : having or showing feelings that disagree with one another ▪ She was still *conflicted* about her ex-husband's remarriage. ▪ the novel's *conflicted* characters

conflict of interest *noun, pl* **conflicts of interest** [*count*] *formal* : a problem caused by having official responsibilities that involve things that might be helpful or harmful to you ▪ Critics say the senator created a *conflict of interest* when she recommended a change to the law that could benefit her husband's company.

con•flu•ence /ˈkɑːnˌfluːwəns/ *noun* [*singular*]

1 *technical* : a place where two rivers or streams join to become one ▪ the Mississippi River's *confluence* with the Missouri River

2 *somewhat formal* : a situation in which two things come together or happen at the same time — usually + *of* ▪ a *confluence of* musical styles ▪ a rare *confluence* of events

con•form /kənˈfɔəm/ *verb* **-forms**; **-formed**; **-form•ing** [*no obj*]

1 : to be similar to or the same as something — usually + *to* or *with* ▪ The animals' behavior *conforms to* a common pattern. ▪ Our budget numbers *conform with* official estimates.

2 : to obey or agree with something ▪ There are new security rules and all airlines are required to *conform*. [=(more commonly) *comply*] — usually + *to* or *with* ▪ The building doesn't *conform to* local regulations. ▪ She refuses to *conform to* society's traditional image of a mother. ▪ Employees have to *conform with* company rules. ▪ The priest's teachings do not *conform with* church doctrine.

3 : to do what other people do : to behave in a way that is accepted by most people ▪ Most teenagers feel pressure to *conform*.

con•for•ma•tion /ˌkɑːnˌfɔəˈmeɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** *technical* : the way in which something is formed or shaped [*noncount*] The dogs will be judged on *conformation* tomorrow. [*count*] protein *conformations*

con•form•ist /kənˈfɔəmɪst/ *noun, pl* **-ists** [*count*] *often disapproving* : a person who behaves in a way that is considered acceptable by most people and who avoids doing things that could be considered different or unusual : a person who conforms ▪ They went from being angry punk rockers to bland *conformists*. ▪ They like to travel, but they're *conformists* who go to only the most popular destinations. — opposite NONCONFORMIST

– conformist *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ a *conformist* society [=a society in which everyone behaves the same way] ▪ *conformist* attitudes

con•for•mi•ty /kənˈfɔəməti/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 : behavior that is the same as the behavior of most other people in a society, group, etc. ▪ religious *conformity* ▪ mindless *conformity* ▪ The corporate culture demands a certain *conformity* of appearance. ▪ *conformity* [=*obedience*] to social customs

2 : the fact or state of agreeing with or obeying something — usually + *to* or *with* ▪ the building's *conformity to* state specifications ▪ The state's traffic laws were changed to bring them into *conformity with* the rest of the country. ▪ We removed our shoes, ***in conformity with*** tradition.

con•found /kənˈfaʊnd/ *verb* **-founds**; **-found•ed**; **-found•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to surprise and confuse (someone or something) ▪ The strategy *confounded* our opponents. ▪ The murder case has *confounded* investigators. — often used as *(be) confounded* ▪ Investors *were confounded* by the conflicting reports.

2 : to prove (someone or something) wrong ▪ The school's team *confounded* all predictions and won the game. ▪ The success of the show *confounded* critics.

3 *informal + old-fashioned* — used as an interjection to express anger or annoyance ▪ ***Confound it!*** I can't find my keys!

confounded *adj, always used before a noun, informal + old-fashioned* : very bad or annoying ▪ I can't close this *confounded* window!

con•front /kənˈfrʌnt/ *verb* **-fronts**; **-front•ed**; **-front•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 a : to oppose or challenge (someone) especially in a direct and forceful way ▪ They *confronted* the invaders at the shore. — often used as *(be) confronted* ▪ He *was confronted* by a security guard when he tried to leave the store. ▪ The mayor *was confronted* by a group of angry protesters. **b** : to directly question the action or authority of (someone) ▪ She *confronted* him about his smoking. ▪ No one was willing to *confront* [=*challenge*] the company president on that point.

2 a : to deal with (something, such as a problem or danger) ▪ Firemen regularly *confront* danger. ▪ They *confronted* [=(more commonly) *encountered*] many obstacles along the way.; *especially* : to deal with (something) in an honest and direct way ▪ The country is reluctant to *confront* its violent past. ▪ The treatment center helps people *confront* [=*face*] their addictions. ▪ *confront* an illness ▪ It's better to *confront* [=*address*] a problem than to avoid it. **b** : to force (someone) to see or deal with (something, such as a problem) in a direct way ▪ The photographs *confront* the viewer with images of desperate poverty. ▪ I *confronted* her with the evidence. — often used as *(be) confronted* ▪ The country again finds itself *confronted* by water shortages. ▪ They *were confronted* with many problems during the project. **c** : to be a problem for (someone or something) ▪ We know of the financial problems *confronting* [=*facing*] local schools.

con•fron•ta•tion /ˌkɑːnfrənˈteɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** : a situation in which people, groups, etc., fight, oppose, or challenge each other in an angry way [*count*] There were several violent *confrontations* between rival gangs. ▪ He would prefer not to have a *confrontation* with the authorities. ▪ a series of *confrontations* between residents and police [*noncount*] We want cooperation, not *confrontation*. ▪ We seek to avoid military *confrontation* at all costs.

con•fron•ta•tion•al /ˌkɑːnfrənˈteɪʃənl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : challenging or opposing someone especially in an angry way ▪ a *confrontational* interview ▪ I think we should take a less *confrontational* approach. ▪ She's become increasingly *confrontational* with her parents and teachers. — opposite NONCONFRONTATIONAL

con•fuse /kənˈfjuːz/ *verb* **-fus•es**; **-fused**; **-fus•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to make (someone) uncertain or unable to understand something ▪ The city's winding streets *confuse* [=*perplex*] most visitors. ▪ The general was trying to *confuse* the enemy. — often used as *(be) confused* ▪ She *was confused* by many of the scientific terms in the article.

2 : to make (something) difficult to understand ▪ Stop *confusing* [=*blurring*] the issue. ▪ The new evidence only *confused* matters further.

3 : to mistakenly think that one person or thing is another person or thing : to mistake (one person or thing) for another ▪ I always *confuse* [=(*informal*) *mix up*] your car and mine. ▪ You must be *confusing* me with someone else. ▪ Some people *confuse* money with happiness. [=think that having a lot of money will make them happy]

con•fused /kənˈfjuːzd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : unable to understand or think clearly ▪ I've never been so *confused*. ▪ We're *confused* about what to do next.
2 : difficult to understand : not clearly organized, expressed, etc. ▪ He gave a *confused* speech denying the accusations. ▪ My feelings were hopelessly *confused*. [=*jumbled*]
– **con·fused·ly** /kən'fju:zədli/ *adv*

confusing *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : difficult to understand ▪ I find the whole political situation so *confusing*! [=*perplexing*] ▪ The instructions were *confusing*. ▪ The city's winding streets are *confusing* to most visitors. ▪ *confusing* terms
– **con·fus·ing·ly** *adv* ▪ The city's streets are *confusingly* arranged. ▪ Even more *confusingly*, they have the same first name.

con·fu·sion /kən'fju:ʒən/ *noun, pl* **-sions**
1 : a situation in which people are uncertain about what to do or are unable to understand something clearly [*noncount*] The detour caused much *confusion*. [=the detour confused many people; the detour made many people uncertain about which roads to use] ▪ There is still some *confusion* as to the time of the meeting. ▪ There is a great deal of *confusion* about how the system works. ▪ Changing the name of the company will only lead to *confusion*. [=make people uncertain] [*count*] the anxieties and *confusions* of teenage life
2 [*noncount*] : the feeling that you have when you do not understand what is happening, what is expected, etc. ▪ Her *confusion* was obvious. ▪ He stared in *confusion* and disbelief.
3 [*noncount*] : a state or situation in which many things are happening in a way that is not controlled or orderly ▪ a scene of *confusion* ▪ There was total/mass *confusion* when the truck hit the restaurant.
4 [*noncount*] : the act of mistakenly thinking that one person or thing is another ▪ Write clearly on the labels to avoid *confusion*. ▪ *Confusion* between/of the words "affect" and "effect" is common.

con·ga /'kɑ:ŋgə/ *noun, pl* **-gas**
1 [*singular*] : a dance in which people follow each other in a long, curving line ▪ a ***conga line*** [=a line of people dancing the conga]
2 [*count*] : a tall drum that is shaped like a barrel and played with the hands — called also *conga drum*; see picture at PERCUSSION

con game *noun, pl* ~ **games** [*count*] *US* : ¹CON

con·geal /kən'ʤi:l/ *verb* **-geals**; **-gealed**; **-geal·ing** [*no obj*] *of a liquid* : to become thick or solid ▪ The gravy began to *congeal* in the pan. — often used figuratively ▪ His anger *congealed* into bitterness.
– **congealed** *adj* ▪ *congealed* fat/blood

con·ge·nial /kən'ʤi:nijəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *somewhat formal*
1 a : suitable or appropriate ▪ The town is a *congenial* place for raising children. ▪ We studied in the *congenial* atmosphere of the library. — often + *to* ▪ a style *congenial to* modern tastes ▪ The library offers an atmosphere *congenial to* learning. **b** : pleasant and enjoyable ▪ He found the work to be *congenial*.
2 : very friendly ▪ a *congenial* [=*genial*] host/companion ▪ She was *congenial* and easygoing.
– **con·ge·ni·al·i·ty** /kən,ʤi:ni'ælәti/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ The club encouraged *congeniality* among its members. ✧ Someone who is described as ***Miss Congeniality*** or ***Mr. Congeniality*** is a very friendly person who could win a contest for having the best personality. These phrases are often used in a negative or ironic way to say that someone is not friendly. ▪ The teacher wasn't exactly *Miss Congeniality*. [=she was very unfriendly]

con·gen·i·tal /kən'ʤɛnәtәl/ *adj*
1 : existing since birth ▪ *congenital* blindness/heart disease ▪ a *congenital* defect ▪ The irregularity in my backbone is probably *congenital*.
2 *always used before a noun, informal* : naturally having a specified character ▪ He's a *congenital* liar. [=he's a liar by nature; he has always lied a lot and is likely to continue to lie]
– **con·gen·i·tal·ly** *adv*

con·gest·ed /kən'ʤɛstәd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : too full or crowded with something (such as vehicles or people) ▪ *congested* highways/stores ▪ The house was located in a *congested* area. [=an area with a lot of traffic] ▪ Traffic still gets *congested* because of the bridge construction.
2 *of a part of the body* : blocked with fluid (such as blood or mucus) ▪ a *congested* nose [=a nose blocked with mucus]
– **con·ges·tion** /kən'ʤɛstʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ nasal *congestion* ▪ traffic/airport *congestion*

con·glom·er·ate /kən'glɑ:mərәt/ *noun, pl* **-ates**
1 [*count*] : a large business that is made of different kinds of companies ▪ a news and entertainment *conglomerate* ▪ Our small company must compete with the big *conglomerates*.
2 [*count, noncount*] *technical* : a kind of rock that is made from many stones of different sizes held together with hardened clay

con·glom·er·a·tion /kən,glɑ:mə'reɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**
1 [*count*] : a group or mixture of different things ▪ a *conglomeration* of shops and restaurants ▪ microscopic *conglomerations* of proteins
2 [*noncount*] : a process in which different things come together to form a single thing ▪ phases of *conglomeration* ▪ the age of ***corporate conglomeration*** [=a time when many conglomerates are being formed]

con·grats /kən'græts/ *noun* [*plural*] *informal* : CONGRATULATIONS ▪ *Congrats* on your promotion!

con·grat·u·late /kən'græʧə,leɪt, kən'græʤə,leɪt/ *verb* **-lates**; **-lat·ed**; **-lat·ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to tell (someone) that you are happy because of his or her success or good luck ▪ *congratulate* the winner ▪ I'd like to *congratulate* you on/for your success. ▪ She *congratulated* us on our test results. ▪ You are ***to be congratulated*** [=you should be congratulated; you deserve praise] on/for your excellent work.
2 : to feel pleased with (yourself) ▪ She *congratulated* herself for getting the best grade in her class.

con·grat·u·la·tion /kən,græʧə'leɪʃən, kən,græʤə'leɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**
1 ***congratulations*** [*plural*] **a** : a message telling someone that you are happy because of his or her success or good luck : words that congratulate someone ▪ Let me offer you my *congratulations* for/on being elected. ▪ Please send her my *congratulations*. **b** — used to tell someone that you are happy because of his or her success or good luck ▪ "I got promoted!" "*Congratulations*!" — often + *on* ▪ *Congratulations on* your promotion! ▪ *Congratulations on* a job well done.
2 *formal* : the act of telling someone that you are happy because of his or her success or good luck : the act of congratulating someone [*plural*] I sent her a letter/message of *congratulations*. [*noncount*] a letter/message of *congratulation*

con·grat·u·la·to·ry /kən'græʧələ,tori, kən'græʤələ,tori, *Brit* kən,græʧə'leɪtri/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* : showing someone that you are happy because of his or her success or good luck : expressing congratulations ▪ The team got a *congratulatory* phone call from the president. ▪ a *congratulatory* handshake — see also SELF-CONGRATULATORY

con·gre·gant /'kɑ:ŋgrigәnt/ *noun, pl* **-gants** [*count*] *chiefly US* : a person who is part of a congregation : a person who is attending religious services or who regularly attends religious services ▪ A small number of *congregants* had assembled for Midnight Mass. ▪ The church depends on the financial support of its *congregants*.

con·gre·gate /'kɑ:ŋgrɪ,geɪt/ *verb* **-gates**; **-gat·ed**; **-gating** [*no obj*] : to come together in a group or crowd ▪ Students began to *congregate* [=*assemble*] in the hall. ▪ It's a place where the homeless *congregate*. ▪ Skiers *congregated* around the lodge's fireplace.

con·gre·ga·tion /,kɑ:ŋgrɪ'geɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count*]
1 : the people who are attending a religious service ▪ The priest addressed the *congregation*.
2 : the people who regularly attend religious services ▪ She is a member of a small *congregation*.

con·gre·ga·tion·al /,kɑ:ŋgrɪ'geɪʃənl/ *adj*
1 : involving or done by the people who attend religious services : relating to a congregation ▪ *congregational* singing
2 ***Congregational*** : relating to a group of Christian churches that believe that the people who attend each church should make their own decisions, rules, etc. ▪ a *Congregational* church
– **Con·gre·ga·tion·al·ist** /,kɑ:ŋgrə'geɪʃənәlɪst/ *noun, pl* **-ists** [*count*] ▪ an active *Congregationalist* – **Congregationalist** *adj* ▪ a *Congregationalist* minister

con·gress /'kɑ:ŋgrәs, *Brit* 'kɑ:ŋ,grɛs/ *noun, pl* **-gress·es**
1 [*count*] : a formal meeting in which representatives or experts discuss important matters, make decisions, etc. ▪ a Communist Party *congress* ▪ an annual academic *congress*
2 a : the group of people who are responsible for making the laws of a country in some kinds of government [*count*] She was recently elected to the country's *congress*. ▪ the *congresses* of Mexico and Chile [*noncount*] acts of *congress* **b** ***Congress*** [*singular*] : a particular congress; *especially* : the

congress of the United States that includes the Senate and the House of Representatives ▪ The bill easily passed both houses of *Congress*. ▪ *Congress* is not currently in session.

3 [*singular*] — used in the names of some political parties ▪ the Indian National *Congress*

– **con•gres•sion•al** /kən'greʃənl/ *adj* ▪ a *congressional* committee ▪ *congressional* investigators

con•gress•man /'kɑ:ŋgrəsmən/ *noun, pl* **-men** /-mən/ [*count*] : someone (especially a man) who is a member of a congress and especially of the U.S. House of Representatives ▪ a former *congressman* who is now a senator ▪ *Congressman* Smith

con•gress•wom•an /'kɑ:ŋgrəs,wʊmən/ *noun, pl* **-wom•en** /-,wɪmən/ [*count*] : a woman who is a member of a congress and especially of the U.S. House of Representatives ▪ a former *congresswoman* ▪ *Congresswoman* Jones

con•gru•ent /kən'gru:wənt, 'kɑ:ŋgru:wənt/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 *mathematics* : having the same size and shape ▪ *congruent* triangles

2 *formal* : matching or in agreement with something ▪ Their goals are not *congruent* with the goals of the team.

– **con•gru•ence** /kən'gru:wəns, 'kɑ:ŋgru:wəns/ *noun* [*noncount*]

con•i•cal /'kɑ:nɪkəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : shaped like a cone ▪ a *conical* cap ▪ The tree has a *conical* shape.

con•i•fer /'kɑ:nəfɚ/ *noun, pl* **-fers** [*count*] *biology* : a bush or tree (such as a pine) that produces cones and that usually has leaves that are green all year ▪ Most *conifers* are evergreen.

– **co•nif•er•ous** /koʊ'nɪfərəs/ *adj* ▪ *coniferous* trees ▪ *coniferous* and deciduous forests

conj *abbr* conjunction

1con•jec•ture /kən'ʤɛkʧɚ/ *noun, pl* **-tures** *formal* : an opinion or idea formed without proof or sufficient evidence : GUESS [*count*] The biography includes *conjectures* about the writer's earliest ambitions. ▪ a *conjecture* about the extent of the injury [*noncount*] Your plan is based on (nothing more than) *conjecture*. ▪ Most of the book is *conjecture*, not fact. ▪ The criminal's motive remains a matter of *conjecture*. [=people can only guess about the criminal's motive; no one knows the criminal's motive]

– **con•jec•tur•al** /kən'ʤɛkʧərəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ Most of the book is *conjectural*.

2conjecture *verb* **-tures**; **-tured**; **-tur•ing** *formal* : to form an opinion or idea without proof or sufficient evidence [+ *obj*] Some have *conjectured* that the distant planet could sustain life. [*no obj*] We only *conjecture* about his motives.

con•join /kən'ʤoɪn/ *verb* **-joins**; **-joined**; **-join•ing** *formal*

1 [*no obj*] : to join together ▪ The two rivers eventually *conjoin*.

2 [+ *obj*] : to join (two or more people or things) together ▪ their attempts to *conjoin* two very different concepts

conjoined twin *noun, pl* ~ **twins** [*count*] : either one of a pair of twins who are born with their bodies joined together in some way ▪ She gave birth to *conjoined twins*. — called also *Siamese twin*

con•ju•gal /'kɑ:nʤɪgəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* : relating to marriage or to a married couple ▪ *conjugal* bliss/happiness ✧ *Conjugal* is often used to refer to the sexual relationship between a married couple. ▪ *conjugal* relations ▪ The prisoner is allowed ***conjugal visits*** from his wife. [=visits in which he is able to have sexual relations with his wife]

con•ju•gate /'kɑ:nʤə,geɪt/ *verb* **-gates**; **-gat•ed**; **-gat•ing** [+ *obj*] *grammar* : to list the different forms of a verb that show number, person, tense, etc. ▪ Can you *conjugate* the verb "to go"?

con•ju•ga•tion /,kɑ:nʤə'geɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**

1 [*noncount*] : the way a verb changes form to show number, person, tense, etc. : the way a verb is conjugated ▪ a lesson on French verb *conjugation*

2 [*count*] : a group of verbs that change in the same way to show number, person, tense, etc. : a set of verbs that are conjugated in the same way ▪ Latin *conjugations*

con•junc•tion /kən'ʤʌŋkʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count*]

1 *grammar* : a word that joins together sentences, clauses, phrases, or words ▪ Some common *conjunctions* are "and," "but," and "although."

2 *formal* : a situation in which two or more things happen at the same time or in the same place ▪ an unfortunate *conjunction* [=*concurrence*] of events

in conjunction with *formal* : in combination with : together with ▪ The concert will be held *in conjunction with* the festival. ▪ The medicine is typically used *in conjunction with* other treatments.

con•junc•ti•vi•tis /kən,ʤʌŋktə'vaɪtəs/ *noun* [*noncount*] *medical* : a disease that causes the eye to become pink and sore — called also *pinkeye*

con•jure /'kɑ:nʤɚ, *Brit* 'kʌnʤə/ *verb* **-jures**; **-jured**; **-jur•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to make (something) appear or seem to appear by using magic ▪ a magician who *conjures* live doves from silk scarves — usually + *up* ▪ In the movie she has the power to *conjure up* storms, fires, and earthquakes.

2 a : to make you think of (something) ▪ The title of the book *conjures* [=*evokes*] images of politics, protest, and war. — usually + *up* ▪ The photos *conjure up* memories of a simpler time. ▪ For many, the word "Greenland" *conjures up* images of vast, icy plains. **b** : to create or imagine (something) ▪ The students *conjured* a clever scheme to raise the money they needed. — usually + *up* ▪ Her imagination *conjured up* a summer scene.

a name to conjure with *chiefly Brit* — used to say that someone is an important person ▪ He has become *a name to conjure with* in the business world.

con•jur•er *or* **con•ju•ror** /'kɑ:nʤɚɚ, *Brit* 'kʌnʤərə/ *noun, pl* **-ers** *or* **-ors** [*count*] : a person who performs magic tricks

1conk /'kɑ:ŋk/ *noun, pl* **conks** [*count*] *Brit slang* : 1NOSE ▪ a big *conk*

2conk *verb* **conks**; **conked**; **conk•ing** [+ *obj*] *informal* : to strike or hit (someone or something) hard ▪ He *conked* his brother on the head with the toy.

conk out [*phrasal verb*] *informal* **1** *of a machine* : to stop working properly ▪ My car's engine *conked out* [=(more commonly) *broke down*] this morning. **2** : to fall asleep ▪ I *conked out* early last night.

con man *noun, pl* ~ **men** [*count*] : CON ARTIST

con•nect /kə'nɛkt/ *verb* **-nects**; **-nect•ed**; **-nect•ing**

1 a [+ *obj*] : to join (two or more things) together ▪ Can you *connect* the hose to the sprinkler? ▪ *Connect* the cable to the battery. ▪ A hallway *connects* the two rooms. ▪ It's the major highway *connecting* the two towns. ▪ A common theme *connects* the stories. — often used as *(be) connected* ▪ The two rooms *are connected* by a hallway. ▪ The stories *are connected* by a common theme. ▪ They *are* somehow *connected* to the royal family. [=they are related in some way to the royal family] ▪ people *connected* by a common language ▪ The schools *are* closely *connected*. [=they are closely involved with one another] **b** [*no obj*] : to join with or become joined to something else ▪ The two bones *connect* at the elbow. ▪ The hose *connects* easily to the sprinkler. ▪ The bedroom *connects* to the kitchen. — opposite DISCONNECT

2 [+ *obj*] **a** : to think of (something or someone) as being related to or involved with another person, thing, event, or idea ▪ People usually *connect* [=*associate*] clowns with the circus. ▪ I never *connected* you with that group of people. — often used as *(be) connected* ▪ In my mind, the two places *are connected*. [=I think of the two places as being related to each other] **b** : to show or prove that a person or thing is related to or involved with something ▪ Police were unable to *connect* [=*link*] her to the crime. ▪ There's no evidence *connecting* the company directly to the scandal. — often used as *(be) connected* ▪ Many people still believe she *is* somehow *connected* to the crime.

3 : to join or become joined to something (such as a system or network) through a telephone, computer, or other device — usually + *to* [*no obj*] Guests can *connect to* the Internet from their hotel rooms. ▪ The computer *connects to* the fax machine. [+ *obj*] "Operator, can you *connect* me to the front desk?" [=can you link my telephone with the telephone at the front desk so that I can talk to the person there?] — opposite DISCONNECT

4 [*no obj*] — used to say that an airplane, train, etc., stops at a particular place where passengers get onto another airplane, train, etc., in order to continue their journey ▪ Our flight to New York *connects* in Chicago. ▪ We leave from Boston and then *connect* in New York with a flight bound for China. ▪ I took an early flight to *connect* with a train to the coast. ▪ passengers *connecting* to/with international flights

5 [*no obj*] *chiefly US, informal* : to have or share a feeling of affection and understanding ▪ We really *connected* on our first date. ▪ She truly *connects* with her audience in concert.

6 [*no obj*] *chiefly US, sports* : to make a successful shot, hit, or throw ▪ He *connected* for a home run. ▪ She failed to *con-*

nect on the shot. = The shot failed to *connect*. [=the shot missed]

connect the dots *chiefly US, informal* : to learn or understand how different things are related ▪ The information about these events is not new but no one had ever *connected the dots* until today.

connect up [*phrasal verb*] ***connect up (something) or connect (something) up*** : to join or link (a device, piece of equipment, etc.) to something ▪ I'm having trouble *connecting* the speakers *up* to the TV. ▪ An electrician will be *connecting up* the new lights tomorrow. [=joining the lights to a source of electricity]

– **con•nect•able** /kə'nɛktəbəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ The devices are *connectable*. [=they can be connected] – **con•nect•ing** *adj* ▪ I missed my *connecting* flight in Detroit.

connected *adj*

1 : joined or linked together ▪ a series of *connected* rooms

2 : having useful social, professional, or commercial relationships ▪ a politically *connected* businessman [=a businessman who has relationships with people who have political power] — see also WELL-CONNECTED

con•nect•ed•ness /kə'nɛktədnəs/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the state of being closely joined or linked especially in an emotional way ▪ She has a strong feeling of *connectedness* to her hometown. ▪ *connectedness* with nature

con•nec•tion /kə'nɛkʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**

1 [*count*] : something that joins or connects two or more things ▪ The state plans to improve roads that serve as *connections* between major highways. ▪ pipe/hose *connections*

2 [*noncount*] : the act of connecting two or more things or the state of being connected ▪ There is a fee for *connection* to the town's water supply. ▪ All classrooms will be wired for *connection* to the Internet.

3 [*count*] **a** : a situation in which two or more things have the same cause, origin, goal, etc. ▪ *connections* between thought and language ▪ Investigators found no *connection* between the two fires. ▪ The school has no *connection* with the museum. ▪ Evidence suggests there's a *connection* between the languages. ▪ I'm not sure I see the *connection*. ▪ Our family feels a deep *connection* to the land. **b** : a situation in which one thing causes another ▪ the *connection* between smoking and lung cancer ▪ The study suggests a *connection* between small class sizes and higher reading scores.

4 [*count*] **a** : something that allows you to become connected to a system, network, etc., through a telephone, computer, or other device ▪ a high-speed Internet *connection* ▪ The company provides telephone *connections* for most of the city's residents. ▪ I can't hear you very well. We must have a ***bad connection***. [=a problem with the way our phones are connected] **b** : a place where two parts or wires meet and touch ▪ an electrical *connection* ▪ I fixed the loose *connection* and now the speaker works fine.

5 [*count*] : a train, bus, or airplane that you get onto after getting off another train, bus, or airplane as part of the same journey ▪ We fly out of Oslo and then have a *connection* [=connecting flight] in London. ▪ We don't have a direct flight to Boston. We have to make a *connection* in Chicago.

6 [*count*] **a** : a relationship between people who are part of the same family, who do business together, etc. ▪ He has no *connection* with his former law firm. ▪ They are proud of their *connection* to the royal family. ▪ Family *connections* can make getting a job much easier. **b** : a shared feeling of affection and understanding ▪ We didn't know each other for very long, but we had a real *connection*. ▪ They're working hard to make an emotional *connection* with their adopted children. ▪ a performer's *connection* with the audience

7 [*count*] **a** : a powerful person who you know and who can help you — usually plural ▪ She has some *connections* in the banking industry. **b** *informal* : a person who sells something illegal ▪ a drug *connection*

in connection with : in relation to (something) : for reasons that relate to (something) — used especially in journalism ▪ Police arrested four men *in connection with* the robbery.

make a/the connection : to understand that there is a relationship between two or more things ▪ It didn't take long for us to *make the connection* between the missing money and our partner's new car.

con•nec•tive /kə'nɛktɪv/ *noun, pl* **-tives** [*count*] *grammar* : a word (such as *and*) that connects words or groups of words

connective tissue *noun, pl* ~ **-sues** [*count, noncount*] *medical* : the parts of the body (such as ligaments, tendons, and cartilage) that support and hold together the other parts of the body (such as muscles, organs, and bones)

con•nec•tor /kə'nɛktɚ/ *noun, pl* **-tors** [*count*]

1 : a device or a part of a device that connects two computers, pieces of equipment, etc. ▪ an electrical *connector*

2 : a road that connects two places, roads, etc. ▪ The road is a major *connector* from the highway to the town's commercial district. ▪ Take the airport *connector* from the main highway. ▪ a *connector* road/highway/bridge

con•ning tower /'kɑːnɪŋ-/ *noun, pl* ~ **-ers** [*count*] : a raised structure on the deck of a submarine

con•nip•tion /kə'nɪpʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count*] *US, informal* : behavior that shows that you are suddenly very angry, upset, etc. ▪ Mom really had/threw a *conniption* [=*fit*] when I told her I got arrested. ▪ He ***goes into conniptions*** [=becomes very upset] if you disagree with him about politics.

con•nive /kə'naɪv/ *verb* **-nives**; **-nived**; **-niv•ing** [*no obj*] *disapproving* : to secretly help someone do something dishonest or illegal ▪ She *connived* [=*conspired*] with him to fix the election. ▪ He accused his opponents of *conniving* [=secretly working together] to defeat the proposal.

– **con•niv•ance** /kʰə'naɪvəns/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ He stole millions of dollars with the *connivance* of his partner.

conniving *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *disapproving* : acting in a dishonest way : using or controlling other people for selfish reasons ▪ He plays a *conniving* swindler who charms people into giving him money.

con•nois•seur /ˌkɑːnə'sɚ/ *noun, pl* **-seurs** [*count*] : a person who knows a lot about something (such as art, wine, food, etc.) : an expert in a particular subject ▪ wine *connoisseurs* ▪ She is a *connoisseur* of African art.

– **con•nois•seur•ship** /ˌkɑːnə'sɚˌʃɪp/ *noun* [*noncount*]

con•no•ta•tion /ˌkɑːnə'teɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count*] : an idea or quality that a word makes you think about in addition to its meaning ▪ a word with negative/positive *connotations* ▪ For many people, the word "fat" has negative *connotations*. ▪ The word "childlike" has *connotations* of innocence. — compare DENOTATION

con•note /kə'noʊt/ *verb* **-notes**; **-not•ed**; **-not•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal, of a word* : to make you think about (something) in addition to the word's meaning ▪ The word "childlike" *connotes* innocence. ▪ For her, the word "family" *connotes* love and comfort. — compare DENOTE 1

con•quer /'kɑːŋkɚ/ *verb* **-quers**; **-quered**; **-quer•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to take control of (a country, city, etc.) through the use of force ▪ The city was *conquered* by the ancient Romans. ▪ Napoleon *conquered* vast territories. ▪ a *conquered* city

2 : to defeat (someone or something) through the use of force ▪ They *conquered* all their enemies. — see also *divide and conquer* at [1]DIVIDE

3 : to gain control of (a problem or difficulty) through great effort ▪ She has been unable to *conquer* [=*overcome*] her fear of heights. ▪ He finally *conquered* his drug habit. ▪ Scientists believe the disease can be *conquered*.

4 : to become successful in (a place, situation, etc.) ▪ She has *conquered* Hollywood and now has her sights set on Broadway. ▪ The company hopes to *conquer* new markets abroad.

5 : to succeed in climbing (a mountain) ▪ He was one of the first climbers to *conquer* Mount Everest.

– **conquering** *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ the *conquering* nation/hero – **con•quer•or** /'kɑːŋkɚɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ors** [*count*] ▪ the Roman *conquerors* ▪ William the *Conqueror*

con•quest /'kɑːnˌkwɛst/ *noun, pl* **-quests**

1 : the act of taking control of a country, city, etc., through the use of force [*count*] tales of the ancient army's *conquests* ▪ the Norman *Conquest* [=the conquest of England by the Normans in 1066] [*noncount*] tales of military *conquest*

2 [*count*] : a country, city, etc., that an army has taken control of through the use of force ▪ Napoleon's *conquests*

3 [*count*] : a person someone has succeeded in having a romantic and especially a sexual relationship with ▪ She was one of his many *conquests*. ▪ people who boast about their sexual/amorous *conquests*

4 [*noncount*] : success in defeating or dealing with something difficult or dangerous — usually + *of* ▪ the *conquest of* space/nature/disease

con•quis•ta•dor /kɑnˈkiːstəˌdoɚ, *Brit* kɒnˈkwɪstədɔː/ *noun, pl* **con•quis•ta•do•res** /kɑnˌkiːstəˈdoriz, *Brit* kɑnˌkwɪstəˈdɔːreɪz/ *or* **con•quis•ta•dors** [*count*] : a leader in the Spanish conquests of America, Mexico, and Peru in the 16th century

con•science /ˈkɑːnʃəns/ *noun, pl* **-scienc•es**
1 : the part of the mind that makes you aware of your actions as being either morally right or wrong [*count*] — usually singular ▪ You should decide what to do according to your own *conscience*. ▪ Her *conscience* was bothering her, so she finally told the truth. ▪ He doesn't seem to have a *conscience*. [=doesn't seem to know or care about what is morally right] ▪ I cannot do anything that is/goes against my *conscience*. [=that I believe is morally wrong] ▪ After searching my *conscience*, I realized that I could not accept their offer. ▪ At least now I can face him with a ***clear conscience***. [=without guilt] ▪ She had a ***guilty/troubled conscience***. [=she had a feeling of guilt about something she had done] ▪ I urged the senator to ***vote his conscience*** [=vote as he felt he should], even if it was at odds with the party line. [*noncount*] The issue is a ***matter of (individual) conscience***. [=something that people must decide about according to what they believe is morally right] ▪ I can't work for a company that has no ***social conscience***. [=a company that does not care about important social issues] — see also PRISONER OF CONSCIENCE
2 [*noncount*] **:** a feeling that something you have done is morally wrong ▪ She felt a pang/prick of *conscience* [=*guilt*] about not inviting him. ▪ The thief must have had an attack of *conscience*, because he returned the wallet with nothing missing from it.
in (all/good) conscience *formal* ✧ If you cannot do something *in (all/good) conscience*, you cannot do it because you think that it is morally wrong. ▪ I cannot *in good conscience* allow this situation to continue. ▪ She could not *in all conscience* remain silent.
on your conscience ✧ If something is *on your conscience*, it makes you feel guilty. ▪ I have to tell you the truth, because I don't want this *on my conscience* any longer.

conscience–stricken *adj* **:** feeling very bad or guilty because of something you have done ▪ the story of a *conscience-stricken* thief who repays all she's stolen

con•sci•en•tious /ˌkɑːnʃiˈɛnʧəs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] **:** very careful about doing what you are supposed to do **:** concerned with doing something correctly ▪ She has always been a very *conscientious* worker. ▪ He was *conscientious* about following the doctor's orders.
– con•sci•en•tious•ly *adv* ▪ He followed his doctor's orders *conscientiously*. **– con•sci•en•tious•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

conscientious objector *noun, pl* ~ **-tors** [*count*] **:** a person who refuses to serve in the military because of moral or religious beliefs ▪ He registered as a *conscientious objector*.
– conscientious objection *noun, pl* ~ **-tions** [*count, noncount*]

con•scious /ˈkɑːnʃəs/ *adj*
1 [*more* ~; *most* ~] **:** awake and able to understand what is happening around you ▪ Is the patient *conscious* yet? ▪ He was fully *conscious* when we found him. — opposite UNCONSCIOUS
2 *not used before a noun* [*more* ~; *most* ~] **:** aware of something (such as a fact or feeling) **:** knowing that something exists or is happening — usually + *of* or *that* ▪ She was very *conscious of* how late it was. ▪ We are *conscious of* the risks involved in the procedure. ▪ He is *conscious of* being a role model for children. ▪ I was *conscious of* the fact that I had to do well on the test to pass the course. ▪ He was *conscious that* they were watching him closely. — opposite UNCONSCIOUS
3 : known or felt by yourself ▪ *conscious* guilt ▪ the capacity for *conscious* thought — opposite UNCONSCIOUS
4 [*more* ~; *most* ~] **:** caring about something specified ▪ He is environmentally *conscious*. [=he thinks and cares about the health of the environment] ▪ a cost-*conscious* shopper [=a shopper who is concerned about the price of things] — see also SELF-CONSCIOUS
5 : done after thinking about facts and reasons carefully ▪ I made a *conscious* [=*deliberate*] effort/attempt to be more compassionate. ▪ a *conscious* decision — opposite UNCONSCIOUS
– con•scious•ly *adv* ▪ Becoming CEO of the company was a goal she had *consciously* pursued for 10 years. ▪ someone who craves attention, whether *consciously* or unconsciously ▪ I wasn't *consciously* aware of having laughed.

con•scious•ness /ˈkɑːnʃəsnəs/ *noun, pl* **-ness•es**
1 [*noncount*] **:** the condition of being conscious **:** the normal state of being awake and able to understand what is happening around you ▪ She experienced a brief loss of *consciousness*. = She ***lost consciousness*** [=became unconscious] briefly. ▪ He slowly ***regained consciousness*** [=became conscious again; woke up] after the surgery.
2 a : a person's mind and thoughts [*count*] — usually singular ▪ The realization first entered my *consciousness* when I was a young child. ▪ The memory was forever etched in her *consciousness*. [*noncount*] The medication caused her to enter an altered state of *consciousness*. — see also STREAM OF CONSCIOUSNESS **b** [*noncount*] **:** knowledge that is shared by a group of people ▪ The events have become part of the national *consciousness*. ▪ a crisis that has faded from the public *consciousness* [=that the public no longer remembers or thinks about]
3 : awareness or knowledge of something specified [*count*] — usually singular ▪ a magazine that aims to raise the political *consciousness* of teenagers [=to make teenagers more aware of political issues] ▪ I was impressed by his *consciousness* of our situation. ▪ She developed a strong ***social consciousness***. [=she became aware of important social issues] [*noncount*] He hopes that he can raise public *consciousness* of the disease.

consciousness–raising *noun* [*noncount*] **:** the process of making people understand and be interested in important social or political issues — often used before another noun ▪ a *consciousness-raising* group/effort

[1]con•script /kənˈskrɪpt/ *verb* **-scripts; -script•ed; -script•ing** [+ *obj*] **:** to force (someone) to serve in the armed forces **:** DRAFT ▪ The government is *conscripting* men for the army. ▪ He was *conscripted* into the army.

[2]con•script /ˈkɑːnˌskrɪpt/ *noun, pl* **-scripts** [*count*] **:** a person who is forced to serve in the armed forces **:** DRAFTEE
– con•script /ˈkɑːnˌskrɪpt/ *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ *conscript* soldiers ▪ a *conscript* army [=an army made up of conscripts]

con•scrip•tion /kənˈskrɪpʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] **:** the practice of ordering people by law to serve in the armed forces **:** DRAFT ▪ young people who face *conscription* into the army ▪ a campaign to end *conscription* [=(*US*) *the draft*]

con•se•crate /ˈkɑːnsəˌkreɪt/ *verb* **-crates; -crat•ed; -crat•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to officially make (something, such as a place or building) holy through a special religious ceremony — usually used as *(be) consecrated* ▪ The church *was consecrated* in 1856. ▪ The bones are buried in *consecrated* ground.
2 : to officially make (someone) a priest, bishop, etc., through a special religious ceremony — usually used as *(be) consecrated* ▪ He *was* recently *consecrated* (as) a priest.
consecrate yourself *formal* **:** to officially promise that you will give your time and attention to something (especially a religion) ▪ They *consecrated themselves* to the church.
– con•se•cra•tion /ˌkɑːnsəˈkreɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count, noncount*] ▪ the *consecration* of the church/bishop

con•sec•u•tive /kənˈsɛkjətɪv/ *adj* **:** following one after the other in a series **:** following each other without interruption ▪ We had unusually cold temperatures for five *consecutive* [=*successive*] days. ▪ The team has lost three *consecutive* games. [=three games in a row]
– con•sec•u•tive•ly *adv* ▪ The prints are signed by the artist and numbered *consecutively*. [=the prints are each given a number 1, 2, 3, 4, etc.]

con•sen•su•al /kənˈsɛnʃəwəl/ *adj* **:** agreed to by the people involved **:** done with the consent of the people involved ▪ *consensual* sex ▪ a *consensual* decision/act ▪ She claims their relationship was *consensual*.
– con•sen•su•al•ly *adv* ▪ The decision was made *consensually*.

con•sen•sus /kənˈsɛnsəs/ *noun* **:** a general agreement about something **:** an idea or opinion that is shared by all the people in a group [*singular*] The (general) *consensus* (of the group) was to go ahead with the plan. ▪ Scientists have not ***reached a consensus*** on the cause of the disease. [=scientists do not yet agree about the cause of the disease] ▪ There is a ***growing consensus*** [=more and more people agree] about/on the need for further investigation. ▪ What is the ***consensus of opinion*** among the experts? [=what do the experts all say?] [*noncount*] Everyone on the council seems to understand the need for *consensus*. ▪ There is a lack of *consensus* among the citizens. ▪ The decision was made ***by consensus***.

[1]con•sent /kənˈsɛnt/ *verb* **-sents; -sent•ed; -sent•ing** [*no obj*] *formal* **:** to agree to do or allow something **:** to give permission for something to happen or be done ▪ He was reluctant at first but finally *consented*. — often + *to* ▪ He *consented*

to the plan. ▪ Her father *consented to* the marriage. ▪ She *consented to* a meeting. — sometimes followed by *to* + *verb* ▪ The builder *consented to do* the repairs at no additional charge.

²consent *noun* [*noncount*] *somewhat formal*

1 : permission for something to happen or be done ▪ He did not give his *consent* for the use of his name in the advertisement. ▪ No one may use the vehicle without the *consent* of the owner. ▪ Students must have the *consent* of their parents to go on the trip. = Students must have ***parental consent*** to go on the trip. ▪ We need ***written consent*** [=a document giving permission] before we can publish the photograph. ✧ A ***consent form*** is a document that you sign in order to officially give your permission for something to happen or be done. ▪ Patients must sign a *consent form* before having surgery. — see also AGE OF CONSENT, INFORMED CONSENT

2 : agreement about an opinion or about something that will happen or be done ▪ This restaurant is, ***by common consent*** the best in the city. [=people agree that this restaurant is the best in the city] ▪ The contract was canceled last month ***by mutual consent*** [=the people involved agreed to cancel the contract]

consenting adult *noun, pl* ~ **adults** [*count*] *law* : a person who is legally considered old enough to decide to have sex : an adult who has consented to have sex

con·se·quence /ˈkɑːnsəˌkwɛns/ *noun, pl* **-quenc·es**

1 [*count*] : something that happens as a result of a particular action or set of conditions ▪ The slightest error can have serious *consequences*. ▪ What were the economic *consequences* of the war? ▪ The decrease in sales was a *consequence* of some bad publicity about the company. ▪ Some say many jobs will be lost as a *consequence* of the trade agreement. ▪ He weighed/considered the *consequences* of making a career change. ✧ If you ***face/suffer the consequences*** of something, you deal with the results of something that you have done. ▪ When he made the decision to leave, he knew he would have to *face the consequences*. ▪ She *suffered the consequences* of her error.

2 [*noncount*] *formal* : importance or value ▪ He was a man of *consequence*. [=he was an important man] ▪ The outcome of the election will be of little *consequence* (to me). [=will not matter much to me] ▪ The style you choose is of no *consequence*. ▪ "What happened?" "Nothing of (any/great) *consequence*."

in consequence *or* ***as a consequence*** *formal* : as a result of something ▪ She made some risky investments and *in consequence* [=*consequently*] lost a lot of money. = She lost a lot of money *in consequence* of some risky investments. ▪ Hundreds of people became sick *as a consequence* [=*as a result*] of the poor sanitary conditions.

con·se·quent /ˈkɑːnsəkwənt/ *adj, always used before a noun, somewhat formal* : happening as a result of a particular action or set of conditions ▪ Weather forecasters predict heavy rains and *consequent* flooding. ▪ Falling sales and a *consequent* loss of profits forced the company to lay off more workers.

– **con·se·quent·ly** /ˈkɑːnsəˌkwɛntli/ *adv* ▪ The state's economy was poor. *Consequently*, many college graduates were forced to move elsewhere in order to find jobs.

con·se·quen·tial /ˌkɑːnsəˈkwɛnʃəl/ *adj, formal*

1 [*more* ~; *most* ~] : IMPORTANT ▪ There have been several *consequential* innovations in their computer software. ▪ The change to the schedule is not *consequential*. — opposite INCONSEQUENTIAL

2 : happening as a result : CONSEQUENT ▪ The company is considering layoffs but hopes to avoid a *consequential* loss in productivity. [=a loss in productivity because of the layoffs]

– **con·se·quen·tial·ly** *adv*

con·ser·van·cy /kənˈsɚvənsi/ *noun, pl* **-cies**

1 [*count*] : an organization that works to protect animals, plants, and natural resources especially by purchasing and caring for areas of land ▪ The land was recently donated to a local *conservancy*. — usually used in the names of organizations ▪ She works for the Nature *Conservancy*.

2 [*count*] *Brit* : a group of officials who control and protect a river or port

3 [*noncount*] : CONSERVATION ▪ raising money for the *conservancy* of natural resources ▪ water *conservancy*

con·ser·va·tion /ˌkɑːnsɚˈveɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 : the protection of animals, plants, and natural resources ▪ wildlife *conservation* ▪ They are trying to raise money for *conservation*. ▪ the *conservation* of the environment — often used before another noun ▪ a *conservation* commission ▪ a local group's *conservation* efforts ▪ the efforts of a local *conservation* group ▪ The property borders a ***conservation area*** [=an area of land that is protected and that cannot be built on or used for certain purposes]

2 : the careful use of natural resources (such as trees, oil, etc.) to prevent them from being lost or wasted ▪ water/forest/energy *conservation*

3 : the things that are done to keep works of art or things of historical importance in good condition ▪ art *conservation* ▪ She specializes in the *conservation* of furniture. ▪ the *conservation* of religious shrines

con·ser·va·tion·ist /ˌkɑːnsɚˈveɪʃənɪst/ *noun, pl* **-ists** [*count*] : someone who works to protect animals, plants, and natural resources or to prevent the loss or waste of natural resources : a person who is involved in conservation

con·ser·va·tism /kənˈsɚvəˌtɪzəm/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 : belief in the value of established and traditional practices in politics and society ▪ political *conservatism* — compare LIBERALISM

2 : dislike of change or new ideas in a particular area ▪ cultural/religious *conservatism*

¹con·ser·va·tive /kənˈsɚvətɪv/ *adj*

1 [*more* ~; *most* ~] : believing in the value of established and traditional practices in politics and society : relating to or supporting political conservatism ▪ a *conservative* newspaper columnist ▪ *conservative* politicians/policies ▪ She is a liberal Democrat who married a *conservative* Republican. — compare ¹LIBERAL

2 ***Conservative*** : of or relating to the conservative party in countries like the United Kingdom and Canada ▪ *Conservative* voters/policies ▪ the *Conservative* candidate

3 [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not liking or accepting changes or new ideas ▪ He had some pretty *conservative* [=*traditional, conventional*] ideas about the way life should be. ▪ She's more *conservative* now than she was in college.

4 [*more* ~; *most* ~] — used to describe a guess, estimate, etc., that is probably lower than the actual amount will be ▪ He gave me a *conservative* estimate of how much repairs will cost. ▪ She predicts that the total cost will be around 500 dollars, and that's a *conservative* guess. [=the total cost will probably be higher than that]

5 [*more* ~; *most* ~] : traditional in taste, style, or manners ▪ Her taste in art is fairly *conservative*. ▪ He is a *conservative* dresser. ▪ a *conservative* suit

6 [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not willing to take risks ▪ a *conservative* investor

7 *or* ***Conservative*** : accepting and following many of the traditional beliefs and customs of a religion ▪ *Conservative* Judaism

– **con·ser·va·tive·ly** *adv* ▪ The collection is *conservatively* valued at three million dollars. ▪ He dresses *conservatively*.

²conservative *noun, pl* **-tives** [*count*]

1 : a person who believes in the value of established and traditional practices in politics and society : a person who is politically conservative ▪ His message is being well received by *conservatives*. — compare ²LIBERAL

2 ***Conservative*** : a member or supporter of a conservative political party in countries like the United Kingdom and Canada

con·ser·va·toire /kənˈsɚvəˌtwɑɚ/ *noun, pl* **-toires** [*count*] *Brit* : CONSERVATORY 1

con·ser·va·to·ry /kənˈsɚvəˌtori, *Brit* kənˈsɜːvətri/ *noun, pl* **-ries** [*count*]

1 *US* : a school in which students are taught music, theater, or dance ▪ a theater *conservatory* ▪ the Peabody *Conservatory* of Music

2 : a room or building with glass walls and a glass roof that is used for growing plants

¹con·serve /kənˈsɚv/ *verb* **-serves**; **-served**; **-serv·ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to keep (something) safe from being damaged or destroyed ▪ The organization works to *conserve* [=*save*] our national forests/wildlife. ▪ a scientist who is studying ways to *conserve* [=*preserve*] biological diversity

2 : to use (something) carefully in order to prevent loss or waste ▪ With so little rain, everyone had to *conserve* water. ▪ We need to *conserve* our natural resources. ▪ Don't run around too much—you need to *conserve* your strength. ▪ *conserving* fuel/energy

²con·serve /ˈkɑːnˌsɚv/ *noun, pl* **-serves** [*count, noncount*] : a sweet food made by cooking pieces of fruit with sugar

con·sid·er /kənˈsɪdɚ/ *verb* **-ers**; **-ered**; **-er·ing**

1 a : to think about (something or someone) carefully especially in order to make a choice or decision [+ *obj*] We are *considering* you for the job. ▪ She refused to *consider* my request. ▪ He seriously *considered* changing careers. ▪ The jury has *considered* the evidence and reached a verdict. ▪ The policy was well researched and well *considered*. ▪ Please *consider* what I've said. ▪ We never ***considered the possibility*** that the plan could fail. [*no obj*] He paused a moment to *consider* before responding. **b** [+ *obj*] **:** to think about (something that is important in understanding something or in making a decision or judgment) ▪ You have to *consider* that he is only three years old. ▪ When you *consider* how long she worked there, it's surprising that she would leave so suddenly. ▪ His achievements are very impressive when you ***consider the fact*** that he never graduated from high school.

2 [+ *obj*] **:** to think about (a person or a person's feelings) before you do something in order to avoid making someone upset, angry, etc. ▪ You have to learn to *consider* other people. ▪ You never *consider* my feelings.

3 [+ *obj*] **:** to think of or regard (someone or something) in a specified way ▪ I *consider* the price (to be) too high. ▪ We *consider* careful work (to be) essential. ▪ We *consider* it an honor to have you here with us tonight. ▪ a television program that is *considered* one of the best comedies ever ▪ He *considers* himself to be a great writer. ▪ ***Consider yourself lucky/fortunate*** that you survived the accident. [=you are lucky to have survived the accident]

4 [+ *obj*] *formal* **:** to look at (someone or something) carefully and thoughtfully ▪ He stepped back to *consider* the whole painting.

all things considered — used for saying that a statement is true when you think about all the good and bad parts or results of something ▪ *All things considered*, we're pleased with how the project turned out. ▪ It was a pretty good vacation, *all things considered*.

consider it done *informal* — used to say that you will gladly do something that someone has asked you to do ▪ "Can you mail this letter for me?" "*Consider it done*."

con·sid·er·able /kənˈsɪdərəbəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] **:** large in size, amount, or quantity ▪ We received a *considerable* number of complaints. ▪ She was in *considerable* pain. ▪ We have already wasted a *considerable* amount of time and money. ▪ The murder trial attracted *considerable* public attention. ▪ Damage to the vehicle was *considerable*.

– **con·sid·er·ably** /kənˈsɪdərəbli/ *adv* ▪ The house was *considerably* more expensive than what we could afford.

con·sid·er·ate /kənˈsɪdərət/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] **:** thinking about the rights and feelings of other people **:** showing kindness toward other people ▪ She is one of the most *considerate* people I know. ▪ He was *considerate* and turned down the stereo when we asked him to. — often + *of* ▪ He is always *considerate of* other people's feelings. ▪ It was very *considerate of* you to offer to help. — opposite INCONSIDERATE

– **con·sid·er·ate·ly** *adv* ▪ He always treats people *considerately*.

con·sid·er·a·tion /kənˌsɪdəˈreɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**

1 [*noncount*] **:** careful thought **:** the act of thinking carefully about something you will make a decision about ▪ You should give some serious *consideration* to your retirement plans. ▪ After careful *consideration*, he agreed to their requests. ▪ Her suggestion is still ***under consideration*** by the committee. [=the people on the committee are still thinking about and discussing her suggestion]

2 [*noncount*] **:** a desire to avoid doing something that will make another person sad, upset, angry, etc. ▪ Show/have some *consideration* and turn down that radio. — often + *for* ▪ He has no *consideration for* her feelings. ▪ Out of *consideration for* the victim's family, no photos will be shown.

3 [*count*] **:** something that you think about when you make a choice or decision ▪ Finding a house close to work was an important *consideration* for them. ▪ Economic/practical *considerations* forced her to delay her education. ▪ The tent weighs 10 pounds, which is no small *consideration* [=which is something that is important to think about] when you're going to be hiking.

4 *formal* **:** payment for something [*count*] — usually singular ▪ She offered to do the job for a small *consideration*. [*noncount*] He charged a small fee ***in consideration of*** [=as payment for] his many services.

take (something) into consideration **:** to think about (something) before you make a decision or form an opinion ▪ We will *take* your experience *into consideration* [=we will think about how much experience you have] when we decide who will get the job. ▪ Results of the study should be *taken into consideration* before the medication is prescribed to patients. ▪ When you ***take everything into consideration*** [=when you think about both the good and bad things], it really wasn't a bad deal. ▪ *Taking everything into consideration* [=*all things considered*], we're probably better off now.

con·sid·ered /kənˈsɪdərd/ *adj, always used before a noun, formal* **:** resulting from careful thought ▪ It's my *considered* opinion that she was not guilty of the crime. ▪ Their actions were a *considered* response to the violence.

con·sid·er·ing /kənˈsɪdərɪŋ/ *prep* **:** when you think about or consider (something) — used to indicate a fact or situation that is being thought of when a statement is made ▪ He did very well in the campaign, especially *considering* his lack of experience. ▪ *Considering* the damage to the car, it's a miracle that no one was hurt in the accident. — sometimes used informally in speech without a following object to suggest something that is being thought of without being specifically mentioned ▪ He didn't win, but he did very well, *considering*. [=he did well when you consider the situation or circumstances]

– **considering** *conj* ▪ He did well, *considering* (that) he had no experience. ▪ She surprised us when she left the company so suddenly, especially *considering* (that) she had worked here for 20 years.

con·sign /kənˈsaɪn/ *verb* **-signs**; **-signed**; **-sign·ing** [+ *obj*] *formal*

1 : to put (someone) in a usually unpleasant place or situation — + *to* ▪ Survivors described how they were *consigned to* labor camps. ▪ The accident left him *consigned* [=(more commonly) *confined*] *to* a wheelchair. ▪ When she first started working, she was *consigned to* a small, windowless office. — often used figuratively ▪ He was *consigned* by fate *to* a life of poverty.

2 : to put (something that is not wanted or used) in a place where old things are stored or thrown away — + *to* ▪ old clothes that have been *consigned to* the attic ▪ She *consigned* his letter *to* the wastebasket. [=she threw away his letter] — often used figuratively ▪ a political movement that has been *consigned to* the dustbin of history [=a political movement that has been forgotten] ▪ His career has been *consigned to* a mere footnote in the history books.

3 : to send (something) *to* a person or place to be sold ▪ She *consigned* the painting *to* an auction house. ▪ The goods were *consigned to* him.

con·sign·ment /kənˈsaɪnmənt/ *noun, pl* **-ments**

1 [*count*] **:** a quantity of goods that are sent to a person or place to be sold ▪ a *consignment* of books/goods/cars ▪ large *consignments* of grain

2 [*noncount*] **:** the act or process of sending goods to a person or place to be sold ▪ the *consignment* of goods

on consignment — used to describe a situation in which goods are sent to a person who pays only for what is sold and who may return what is not sold ▪ The goods were shipped/sold *on consignment*.

consignment store *noun, pl* ~ **stores** [*count*] *US* **:** a store to which people bring items that they no longer want (such as old clothes, shoes, and equipment) to have them sold ✧ When an item at a consignment store is sold, the person who brought it to the store gets a portion of the money paid for it.

con·sist /kənˈsɪst/ *verb, not used in progressive tenses* **-sists**; **-sist·ed**; **-sist·ing**

consist in [*phrasal verb*] ***consist in (something)*** *formal* **:** to have (something) as an essential or main part ▪ Happiness *consists in* being satisfied with what you have.

consist of [*phrasal verb*] ***consist of (something)*** **:** to be formed or made up of (specified things or people) ▪ Breakfast *consisted of* cereal, fruit, and orange juice. ▪ Coal *consists* mostly *of* carbon. ▪ His wardrobe *consists* almost entirely *of* jeans and T-shirts. ▪ The crowd *consisted* mainly/largely *of* teenage girls. ▪ The job mainly *consists of* classifying evidence. ▪ a museum with a collection *consisting* entirely *of* portraits

con·sis·ten·cy /kənˈsɪstənsi/ *noun, pl* **-cies**

1 [*noncount*] **:** the quality or fact of being consistent: such as **a :** the quality or fact of staying the same at different times ▪ His statements on this subject have lacked *consistency*; *especially* **:** the quality or fact of being good each time ▪ He's a good pitcher, but he lacks *consistency*. [=his pitching is good in some games and bad in other games] ▪ Customers expect

consistency in the quality of service they receive. ▪ Practice will ensure greater *consistency* of performance. **b :** the quality or fact of having parts that agree with each other ▪ Her argument lacks *consistency*. [=her argument is not logical because its ideas do not agree with each other]

2 : the quality of being thick, firm, smooth, etc. [*count*] paints of varying *consistencies* — usually singular ▪ She mixed the dough to the right *consistency*. ▪ The batter should have/be the *consistency of* pudding. ▪ Boil the juice to the *consistency of* a thick syrup. [*noncount*] The paints vary in *consistency*.

con•sis•tent /kən'sɪstənt/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 a : always acting or behaving in the same way ▪ He is a *consistent* supporter of the museum. ▪ We need to be more *consistent* in handling this problem. ▪ Data from recent experiments show *consistent* results. [=results that do not change] **b :** of the same quality; *especially* : good each time ▪ His pitching has always been very *consistent*. [=*reliable*] ▪ Customers expect that the quality of service they receive will be *consistent*. — opposite INCONSISTENT

2 : continuing to happen or develop in the same way ▪ The pain has been *consistent*. ▪ Your grades have shown *consistent* improvement this school year. ▪ You need to exercise on a more *consistent* [=*regular*] basis. — opposite INCONSISTENT

3 : having parts that agree with each other ▪ Their descriptions of the accident were *consistent*. ▪ She is not being *consistent* in her argument. [=her argument includes parts that do not agree with one another] **:** in agreement *with* something ▪ His statements were not *consistent with* the truth. [=were not true] ▪ His symptoms are *consistent with* heart disease. [=the symptoms he has are symptoms of heart disease] ▪ The decision was *consistent with* the company's policy. — opposite INCONSISTENT

– con•sis•tent•ly *adv* ▪ The technique is now being used *consistently*. ▪ He *consistently* earned high grades all through high school. ▪ She has played *consistently* all season. ▪ The store has *consistently* low prices.

con•so•la•tion /ˌkɑ:nsə'leɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**

1 : something that makes a person feel less sadness, disappointment, etc. [*noncount*] His apology was of little/no *consolation* (to me). [=his apology did not make me feel much/any better] ▪ She found/took great *consolation* [=*comfort*] in all the cards and letters she received. ▪ ***If it's any consolation*** (to you) [=if it helps you to feel better], no one else got much of a raise this year, either. [*count*] His kind words were a *consolation* to/for me.

2 [*count*] **:** a contest in which people or teams that have previously lost compete against each other — usually used before another noun ▪ a *consolation* game/match/race

consolation prize *noun, pl* ~ **prizes** [*count*] **:** a prize that is given to someone who has not won a contest

con•so•la•to•ry /kən'soʊlə,tori, *Brit* kən'sɒlətri/ *adj, formal* **:** intended to make someone who is sad or disappointed feel better ▪ *consolatory* words ▪ a *consolatory* pat on the shoulder

[1]con•sole /kən'soʊl/ *verb* **-soles; -soled; -sol•ing** [+ *obj*] **:** to try to make (someone) feel less sadness or disappointment ▪ She *consoled* [=*comforted*] him after his wife died. ▪ Nothing could *console* her after his death. — often + *with* ▪ I *consoled* myself *with* the thought that things could be much worse.

– consolable *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ barely *consolable*

– consoling *adj* ▪ *consoling* words ▪ a *consoling* smile/hug

[2]con•sole /'kɑ:n,soʊl/ *noun, pl* **-soles** [*count*]

1 : a flat surface that contains the controls for a machine, for a piece of electrical equipment, etc.

2 : a cabinet for a stereo or television that stands on the floor

con•sol•i•date /kən'sɑ:lə,deɪt/ *verb* **-dates; -dat•ed; -dat•ing**

1 : to join or combine together into one thing [*no obj*] The two funds will *consolidate* into one. ▪ The two companies *consolidated*. [=*merged*] [+ *obj*] I *consolidated* my loans.

2 [+ *obj*] **:** to make (something, such as a position of power or control) stronger or more secure ▪ The team *consolidated* [=*strengthened*] their lead with another touchdown during the fourth quarter. ▪ The administration hopes that such measures will *consolidate* its position. ▪ Rebel forces have *consolidated* their hold on the region.

– con•sol•i•da•tion /kən,sɑ:lə'deɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count, noncount*] ▪ the *consolidation* of power

con•som•mé /ˌkɑ:nsə'meɪ, *Brit* kən'sɒmeɪ/ *noun* [*noncount*] **:** a clear soup that is usually made with seasoned meat

[1]con•so•nant /'kɑ:nsənənt/ *noun, pl* **-nants** [*count*]

1 : a speech sound (such as /p/, /d/, or /s/) that is made by partly or completely stopping the flow of air breathed out from the mouth

2 : a letter that represents a consonant; *especially* **:** any letter of the English alphabet except *a, e, i, o, u*, and sometimes *y* — compare VOWEL

[2]consonant *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 *formal* **:** in agreement with something — often + *with* ▪ The decision was *consonant with* [=*consistent with*] the company's usual practice.

2 *music* **:** in harmony ▪ *consonant* chords — opposite DISSONANT

– con•so•nance /'kɑ:nsənəs/ *noun, pl* **-nanc•es** [*noncount*] musical *consonance* ▪ His beliefs are ***in consonance with*** [=*agree with*] the political party's views. [*count*] the pleasing *consonances* of the symphony

[1]con•sort /kən'soət/ *verb* **-sorts; -sort•ed; -sort•ing**

consort with [*phrasal verb*] ***consort with (someone)*** *formal* + *disapproving* **:** to spend time with (someone) ▪ There is evidence that he has *consorted with* criminals.

[2]con•sort /'kɑ:n,soət/ *noun, pl* **-sorts** [*count*] *formal* **:** a wife or husband of a king, queen, emperor, etc.

con•sor•tium /kən'soəʃəm, kən'soətijəm/ *noun, pl* **con•sor•tia** /-ʃə, -tijə/ *also* **con•sor•tiums** [*count*] **:** a group of people, companies, etc., that agree to work together ▪ A Japanese *consortium* invested millions in the technology. ▪ a *consortium* of universities/banks/newspapers

con•spic•u•ous /kən'spɪkjəwəs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : very easy to see or notice ▪ There were a number of *conspicuous* changes to the building. ▪ The sign was placed in a very *conspicuous* spot/position. ▪ The bird has a *conspicuous* red head. ▪ She felt very *conspicuous* in her pink coat. ▪ He was uncomfortable about his *conspicuous* weight gain. ▪ The President was ***conspicuous by his absence*** at the peace talks. [=his absence was very noticeable; people had expected him to be there and noticed that he wasn't] — opposite INCONSPICUOUS

2 : attracting attention by being great or impressive ▪ The business was a *conspicuous* success. ▪ *conspicuous* bravery

– con•spic•u•ous•ly *adv* ▪ The sign was placed very *conspicuously*. ▪ He was *conspicuously* [=*noticeably*] absent from the meeting. **– con•spic•u•ous•ness** /kən'spɪkjəwəsnəs/ *noun* [*noncount*]

conspicuous consumption *noun* [*noncount*] **:** the act or practice of spending money on expensive things that are not necessary in order to impress other people ▪ a culture of *conspicuous consumption*

con•spir•a•cy /kən'spirəsi/ *noun, pl* **-cies**

1 [*count*] **:** a secret plan made by two or more people to do something that is harmful or illegal ▪ The CIA uncovered a *conspiracy* against the government.

2 [*noncount*] **:** the act of secretly planning to do something that is harmful or illegal ▪ They were accused of *conspiracy* to commit murder.

conspiracy of silence *noun* [*singular*] **:** a secret agreement made between two or more people to not talk about something ▪ There seems to be a *conspiracy of silence* as far as his resignation is concerned.

conspiracy theory *noun, pl* ~ **-ries** [*count*] **:** a theory that explains an event or situation as the result of a secret plan by usually powerful people or groups ▪ *Conspiracy theories* sprung up soon after the leader's assassination.

– conspiracy theorist *noun, pl* ~ **-rists** [*count*] ▪ *Conspiracy theorists* believe the government is hiding evidence of UFOs.

con•spir•a•tor /kən'spirətə/ *noun, pl* **-tors** [*count*] **:** a person who is involved in a secret plan to do something harmful or illegal **:** a person who is involved in a conspiracy

con•spir•a•to•ri•al /kən,spirə'torijəl/ *adj*

1 : involving a secret plan by two or more people to do something that is harmful or illegal **:** of or relating to a conspiracy ▪ *conspiratorial* plots/plans

2 [*more* ~; *most* ~] **:** suggesting that something secret is being shared ▪ She gave me a *conspiratorial* smile/wink across the table. ▪ His voice became low and *conspiratorial*.

– con•spir•a•to•ri•al•ly *adv* ▪ He winked *conspiratorially*.

con•spire /kən'spajə/ *verb* **-spires; -spired; -spir•ing** [*no obj*]

1 : to secretly plan with someone to do something that is harmful or illegal — often followed by *to* + *verb* ▪ They were

accused of *conspiring to overthrow* the government. ▪ She *conspired* with him *to smuggle* the paintings out of the country. — often + *against* ▪ He thought that they were *conspiring against* him.

2 : to happen in a way that produces bad or unpleasant results — often followed by *to* + *verb* ▪ My illness and the bad weather *conspired to ruin* my vacation. ▪ Several things *conspired to force* them to change the policy. — often + *against* ▪ The organizer of the festival thinks the weather has *conspired against* him.

con•sta•ble /ˈkɑːnstəbəl, ˈkʌnstəbəl/ *noun, pl* **-stables** [*count*]

1 *US* : a public official whose job is similar to that of a police officer but who is elected or appointed rather than hired

2 *chiefly Brit* : POLICE CONSTABLE

con•stab•u•lary /kənˈstæbjəleri, *Brit* kənˈstæbjələri/ *noun, pl* **-lar•ies** [*count*] *Brit* : the police force of a particular area

con•stan•cy /ˈkɑːnstənsi/ *noun* [*noncount*] *formal*

1 : the quality of staying the same : lack of change ▪ the *constancy of* the Earth's rotation ▪ maintaining *constancy of* speed

2 : the quality of being loyal to a person or belief ▪ There was no doubt of his *constancy* [=*fidelity*] to his wife.

[1]con•stant /ˈkɑːnstənt/ *adj*

1 : happening all the time or very often over a period of time ▪ He suffers from *constant* headaches. ▪ The noise from the construction was *constant* [=*continuous*] from early morning until evening. ▪ Her *constant* chatter was a nuisance. ▪ The house is in *constant* need of repairs. ▪ The scar serves as a *constant* reminder of the accident. ▪ a problem demanding *constant* attention/care — opposite INCONSTANT

2 [*more* ~; *most* ~] : staying the same : not changing ▪ The equipment should be stored at a *constant* temperature. ▪ He kept the car's speed *constant*. ▪ She has struggled to maintain a *constant* weight. — opposite INCONSTANT

3 *formal* + *literary* : always loyal ▪ They remained *constant* friends throughout their lives. ▪ Their friendship was *constant*. — opposite INCONSTANT

– con•stant•ly *adv* ▪ He talked *constantly* all through the movie. ▪ They complained *constantly* about the noise.

[2]constant *noun, pl* **-stants** [*count*]

1 : something that stays the same : something that does not change ▪ Her job was the one *constant* in her life.

2 *technical* : a quantity or number whose value does not change

con•stel•la•tion /ˌkɑːnstəˈleɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count*]

1 : a group of stars that forms a particular shape in the sky and has been given a name ▪ The *constellation* Ursa Major contains the stars of the Big Dipper.

2 *formal* : a group of people or things that are similar in some way ▪ A large *constellation* of relatives and friends attended the funeral. ▪ The patient presented a *constellation* of symptoms.

con•ster•na•tion /ˌkɑːnstəˈneɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] *formal* : a strong feeling of surprise or sudden disappointment that causes confusion ▪ The candidate caused *consternation* among his supporters by changing positions on a key issue. ▪ Much to her parents' *consternation*, she had decided to not go to college. ▪ They stared at each other in *consternation* [=*dismay*], not knowing what to do.

con•sti•pat•ed /ˈkɑːnstəˌpeɪtəd/ *adj* : unable to easily release solid waste from your body : unable to have a bowel movement easily

con•sti•pa•tion /ˌkɑːnstəˈpeɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the condition of being unable to easily release solid waste from your body : the condition of being unable to have a bowel movement easily ▪ A side effect of the drug is *constipation*.

con•stit•u•en•cy /kənˈstɪʧəwənsi/ *noun, pl* **-cies** [*count*]

1 : a group of people who support or who are likely to support a politican or political party ▪ the governor's conservative/liberal *constituency* ▪ the party's core *constituencies* ▪ Analysts say she has a good chance of being elected because she appeals to a broad *constituency*. [=many different kinds of people like her and will vote for her]

2 a : the people who live and vote in an area ▪ The senator's *constituency* includes a large minority population. **b** *Brit* : a voting area : a district with an elected representative ▪ He was elected to represent a Liverpool *constituency*.

3 : a group of people who support, are served by, or are represented by an organization, business, etc. ▪ a corporation's *constituency*

[1]con•stit•u•ent /kənˈstɪʧəwənt/ *noun, pl* **-ents** [*count*]

1 : any one of the people who live and vote in an area : a member of a constituency ▪ She's pledged to help her elderly *constituents*. ▪ Many senators have received calls from *constituents* who want them to vote in favor of the law.

2 : one of the parts that form something ▪ the chemical *constituents* of the liquid

[2]constituent *adj, always used before a noun* : forming part of a whole ▪ The company can be separated into several *constituent* parts/elements.

con•sti•tute /ˈkɑːnstəˌtuːt, *Brit* ˈkɒnstəˌtjuːt/ *verb* **-tutes; -tut•ed; -tut•ing** *formal*

1 *not used in progressive tenses* [*linking verb*] : to make up or form something ▪ Women *constitute* 70 percent of the student population at the college. ▪ Twelve months *constitute* a year. [=a year is made up of 12 months]

2 *not used in progressive tenses* [*linking verb*] : to be the same as something : to be equivalent to something ▪ The court determined that the search of their house *constituted* [=*amounted to*] a violation of their rights.

3 [+ *obj*] : to establish or create (an organization, a government, etc.) — usually used as *(be) constituted* ▪ The recently *constituted* government will hold elections in May.

con•sti•tu•tion /ˌkɑːnstəˈtuːʃən, *Brit* ˌkɒnstəˈtjuːʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**

1 [*count*] **a** : the system of beliefs and laws by which a country, state, or organization is governed ▪ The state's *constitution* has strict rules about what tax money can be used for. ▪ The right to free speech is guaranteed by the (U.S.) *Constitution*. ▪ Members of the club have drafted a new *constitution*. **b** : a document that describes this system ▪ The state's original *constitution* is on display at the museum.

2 [*count*] : the physical health and condition of a person or animal ▪ He has a robust/weak/tough *constitution*. ▪ Only animals with strong *constitutions* are able to survive the island's harsh winters.

3 [*noncount*] *formal* : the form or structure of something ▪ What is the molecular *constitution* of the chemical?

[1]con•sti•tu•tion•al /ˌkɑːnstəˈtuːʃənl, *Brit* ˌkɒnstəˈtjuːʃənl/ *adj*

1 *always used before a noun* : of or relating to the system of beliefs and laws that govern a country : of or relating to a constitution ▪ She is in favor of a *constitutional* amendment [=an amendment to the constitution] to overturn the unpopular law. ▪ *constitutional* law

2 : allowed by a country's constitution ▪ That kind of punishment is not *constitutional*. [=is not allowed by the constitution] ▪ the *constitutional* guarantee of free speech ▪ a *constitutional* right to vote — opposite UNCONSTITUTIONAL

3 a : of or relating to the health and strength of a person's body ▪ *Constitutional* symptoms of the disease include headache and fever. **b** : of or relating to a person's basic nature or character ▪ He has a *constitutional* dislike of controversy.

– con•sti•tu•tion•al•ly *adv* ▪ Free speech is a *constitutionally* guaranteed right in the U.S. ▪ He is *constitutionally* incapable of sitting still for more than a minute. [=it is not his nature to be able to sit still for more than a minute.]

[2]constitutional *noun, pl* **-als** [*count*] *old-fashioned* : a brief walk that you take to improve your health ▪ She's gone out for her morning *constitutional*.

con•sti•tu•tion•al•ism /ˌkɑːnstəˈtuːʃənəˌlɪzəm, *Brit* ˌkɒnstəˈtjuːʃənəˌlɪzəm/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the belief that a government should be based on a constitution ▪ the doctrine of *constitutionalism*

– con•sti•tu•tion•al•ist /ˌkɑːnstəˈtuːʃənəlɪst, *Brit* ˌkɒnstəˈtjuːʃənəlɪst/ *noun, pl* **-ists** [*count*]

con•sti•tu•tion•al•i•ty /ˌkɑːnstəˌtuːʃəˈnæləti, *Brit* ˌkɒnstəˌtjuːʃəˈnæləti/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the state of being allowed by or in agreement with a constitution : the state of being constitutional ▪ He questions the *constitutionality* of the proposed law.

constitutional monarchy *noun, pl* ~ **-chies** [*count*] : a system of government in which a country is ruled by a king and queen whose power is limited by a constitution

con•strain /kənˈstreɪn/ *verb* **-strains; -strained; -straining** [+ *obj*]

1 : to limit or restrict (something or someone) ▪ She believes that too much instruction *constrains* [=*limits*] an artist's creativity. ▪ People with criminal backgrounds are legally *constrained* [=*restricted*] from working for some government agencies. — often used as *(be) constrained* ▪ We *were constrained* [=*limited*] by the short amount of time we had. ▪ Teenagers often feel *constrained* [=*limited*] by rules.

2 *formal* : to use pressure to force (someone) to do something — usually used as *(be) constrained* ▪ She ***felt constrained*** [=(more commonly) *felt compelled*] to apologize for the harm she'd done.

constrained *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* : not done or happening naturally ▪ It was obvious from his *constrained* [=*forced*] smile that he was not enjoying himself. ▪ *constrained* behavior

con·straint /kən'streɪnt/ *noun, pl* **-straints**

1 [*count*] : something that limits or restricts someone or something ▪ Lack of funding has been a major *constraint* on the building's design. — usually plural ▪ Budget *constraints* [=*restrictions*] have forced me to revise my travel plans. [=I've changed my travel plans because I do not have enough money] ▪ Because of time *constraints* [=*limitations*], speeches will be limited to five minutes. ▪ Tradition puts/places/imposes *constraints* on [=puts limits on] people and their actions.

2 [*noncount*] : control that limits or restricts someone's actions or behavior ▪ They demand freedom from *constraint*. ▪ They refuse to work under *constraint* any longer.

con·strict /kən'strɪkt/ *verb* **-stricts**; **-strict·ed**; **-strict·ing**

1 a [+ *obj*] : to make (something) narrower, smaller, or tighter ▪ These shoes are too small and *constrict* [=*squeeze*] my feet. ▪ The drug is used to *constrict* blood vessels. **b** [*no obj*] : to become narrower, smaller, or tighter ▪ The drug causes the blood vessels to *constrict*. [=*contract*]

2 [+ *obj*] : to prevent or keep (something or someone) from developing freely ▪ The declining economy has *constricted* job opportunities. ▪ a life *constricted* by poverty and disease ▪ He ***felt constricted*** by their notions of what was proper.

– **con·stric·tion** /kən'strɪkʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*noncount*] The drug causes *constriction* of blood vessels. [*count*] *constrictions* in blood vessels

constrictor see BOA CONSTRICTOR

[1]con·struct /kən'strʌkt/ *verb* **-structs**; **-struct·ed**; **-struct·ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to build or make (something physical, such as a road, bridge, or building) ▪ They plan to *construct* a barn behind the house. ▪ a newly *constructed* bridge/building ▪ The table is *constructed* [=*made*] of wood and steel.

2 : to make or create (something, such as a story or theory) by organizing ideas, words, etc. ▪ The author *constructs* all the stories around one theme. ▪ a well-*constructed* argument

3 *mathematics* : to draw (a shape) according to a set of instructions or rules ▪ *Construct* a triangle that has sides of equal length.

– **con·struc·tor** /kən'strʌktɚ/ *noun, pl* **-tors** [*count*] ▪ a *constructor* of sound arguments

[2]construct *noun, pl* **-structs** [*count*] *formal* : something (such as an idea or a theory) that is formed in people's minds ▪ He argues that time is a subjective *construct* with no objective existence. ▪ Class distinctions are a ***social construct***. [=an idea that has been created and accepted by the people in a society]

con·struc·tion /kən'strʌkʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**

1 [*noncount*] **a** : the act or process of building something (such as a house or road) ▪ *Construction* of the new bridge will begin in the spring. ▪ *Construction* on the bridge will occur daily from 8:00 p.m. to 4:00 a.m. ▪ The new school is now ***under construction***. [=is now being built] — often used before another noun ▪ *construction* costs/equipment/materials ▪ They haven't chosen a *construction* site for the building yet. [=they haven't decided where the building will be built yet] **b** : the business of building things (such as houses or roads) ▪ "What do you do for a living?" "I'm ***in construction.***" [=I do work that involves building things] ▪ the *construction* industry

2 [*noncount*] : the way something is built or made ▪ Note the similar *construction* of the buildings. ▪ I like these binoculars because of their sturdy *construction*. [=because they are strongly built]

3 [*count*] : the way words in a sentence or phrase are arranged ▪ Some people think it is wrong to end a sentence with a preposition, but the *construction* is quite common in English. ▪ That verb is commonly used in passive *constructions*. ▪ This word is used in positive/negative *constructions*.

4 [*noncount*] : the process of organizing ideas or thoughts into a new theory, statement, etc. ▪ His ideas were pivotal in the *construction* of a new way to understand time and space.

5 [*count*] *formal* : a way of understanding something ▪ Don't put a negative *construction* on what I said: [=don't understand what I said in a negative way] ▪ a broad/strict *construction* [=*interpretation*] of the Constitution

construction paper *noun* [*noncount*] *US* : a kind of thick paper that comes in many colors and is used especially by children in school to create art

con·struc·tive /kən'strʌktɪv/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : helping to develop or improve something : helpful to someone instead of upsetting and negative ▪ I tried to offer *constructive* criticism/suggestions/comments. ▪ Your feedback was not very *constructive*. ▪ The program helps people recently released from prison figure out how they can play a *constructive* role in society.

– **con·struc·tive·ly** *adv*

con·strue /kən'stru:/ *verb* **-strues**; **-strued**; **-stru·ing** [+ *obj*] *somewhat formal*

1 : to understand (an action, event, remark, etc.) in a particular way — usually + *as* ▪ He *construed* my actions *as* hostile. — often used as *(be) construed* ▪ Her frustration *was construed* [=*perceived, interpreted*] *as* anger. — compare MISCONSTRUE

2 : to understand the meaning of (a word, phrase, or sentence) ▪ The way the court *construes* various words has changed over time.

con·sul /'kɑ:nsəl/ *noun, pl* **-suls** [*count*]

1 : a government official whose job is to live in a foreign country and protect and help the citizens of his or her own country who are traveling, living, or doing business there — compare AMBASSADOR

2 : either one of two chief officials of the ancient Roman republic who were elected every year

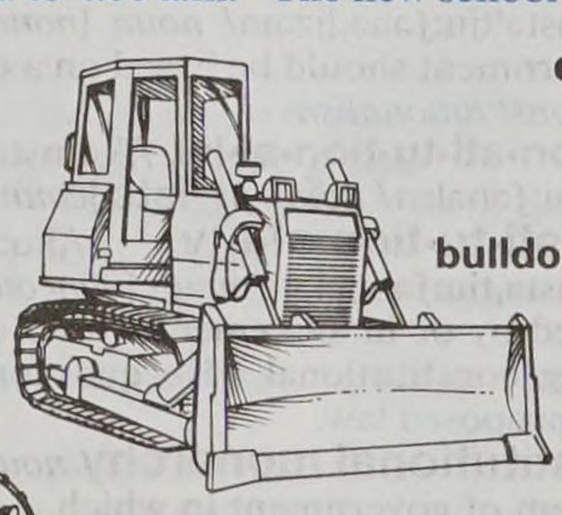
– **con·sul·ar** /'kɑ:nsələɚ, *Brit* 'kɒnsjələ/ *adj* ▪ a *consular* official

con·sul·ate /'kɑ:nsələt/ *noun, pl* **-ates** [*count*] : the building where a consul lives and works ▪ the Russian *consulate* in Washington, D.C.

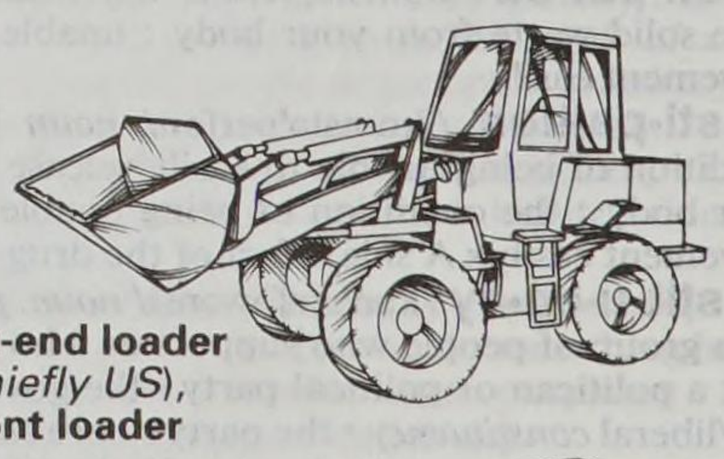
con·sult /kən'sʌlt/ *verb* **-sults**; **-sult·ed**; **-sult·ing**

1 [+ *obj*] : to go to (someone, such as a doctor or lawyer) for advice : to ask for the professional opinion of (someone) ▪

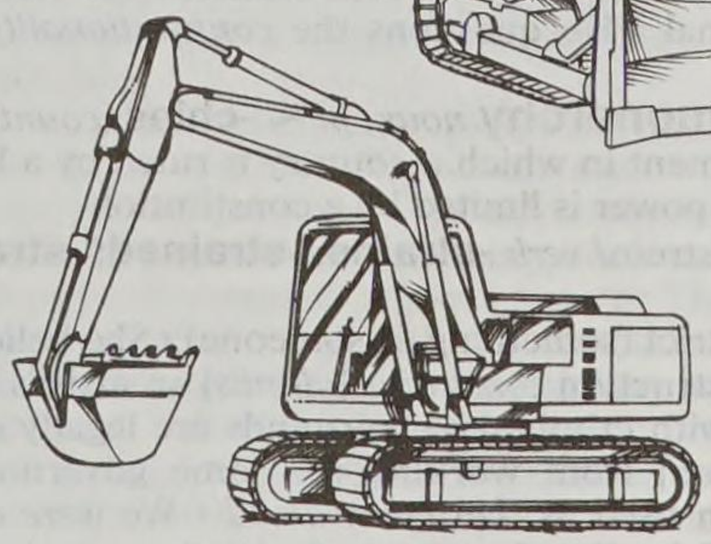
construction



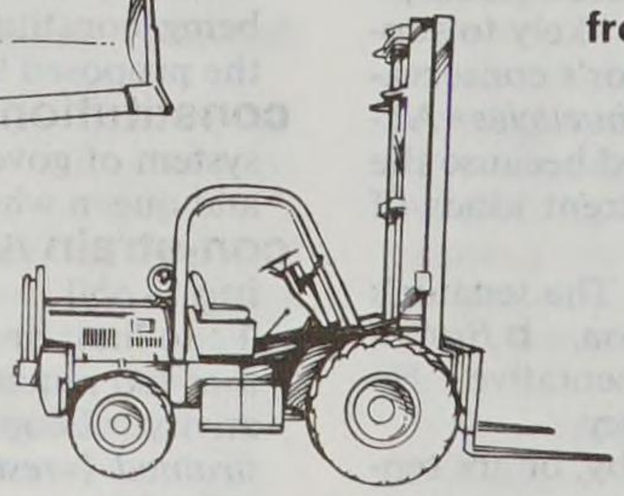
bulldozer



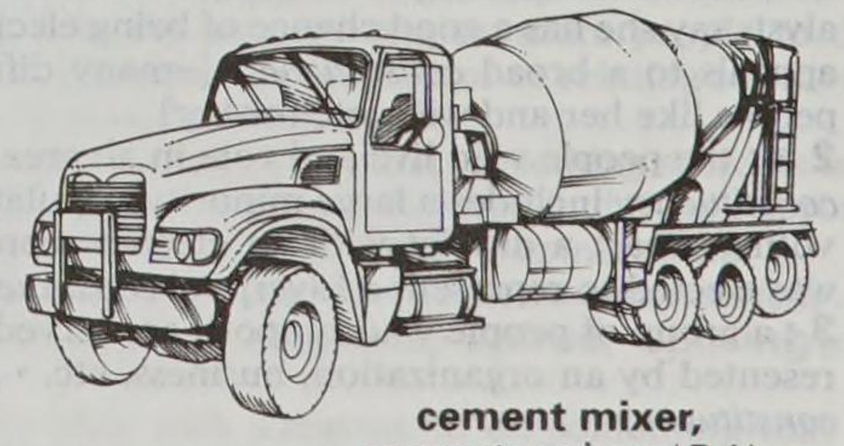
front-end loader (*chiefly US*), front loader



backhoe



forklift, forklift truck



cement mixer, concrete mixer (*Brit*)

consult a lawyer/accountant about a business matter ▪ You should not attempt these exercises without first *consulting* your doctor.

2 : to talk about something with (someone) in order to make a decision [+ *obj*] He made the decision without *consulting* me. ▪ I expect to be *consulted* on important decisions. [*no obj*] — + *with* ▪ I'll need to *consult with* my husband before I can sign the papers.

3 [+ *obj*] : to look for information in (something, such as a book or map) ▪ *consult* a dictionary ▪ I don't remember that part of the meeting; I'll have to *consult* my notes.

4 [*no obj*] *chiefly US* : to give professional advice to a person, organization, or company for a fee : to work as a consultant ▪ She *consults* for a living.

– **consulting** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ Since she retired, she's done some *consulting* for the company. ▪ He works for a *consulting* company. [=a company that gives professional advice to other companies for a fee]

con·sul·tan·cy /kən'sʌltn̩si/ *noun, pl* **-cies** [*count*] : a company that gives professional advice to other companies for a fee : a consulting company ▪ The company has hired an excellent marketing *consultancy*.

con·sult·ant /kən'sʌltn̩t/ *noun, pl* **-ants** [*count*]

1 : a person who gives professional advice or services to companies for a fee ▪ an advertising/management *consultant* ▪ They've hired a computer *consultant* to assess how the company can upgrade its system.

2 *Brit* : a hospital doctor of the highest rank who is an expert in a particular area of medicine ▪ a cardiology *consultant* [=*specialist*]

con·sul·ta·tion /ˌkɑ:nsəl'teɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**

1 [*count*] : a meeting in which someone (such as a doctor or lawyer) talks to a person about a problem, question, etc. ▪ Many accountants offer a free *consultation* before charging for their work. ▪ telephone *consultations* ▪ After a series of *consultations* with doctors, a date for the operation was set.

2 : a discussion about something that is being decided [*count*] The group had a series of *consultations* with members of Congress. [*noncount*] The town decided to close the park without any *consultation* with town residents. ▪ After *consultation* with the judge, lawyers decided to drop the case. ▪ The book was chosen ***in consultation with*** [=after consulting] a panel of experts. ▪ a *consultation* period/process

3 : the act of looking for information in a book, on a map, etc. [*noncount*] *Consultation* of city records confirms that she lived there in the 1950s. ▪ Several dictionaries are available for *consultation*. [*count*] a quick *consultation* of the city records

con·sul·ta·tive /kən'sʌltətɪv/ *adj, formal*

1 : giving advice ▪ a *consultative* document

2 : having power only to give advice and not to make decisions ▪ a *consultative* committee/council

consulting room *noun, pl* ~ **rooms** [*count*] : a room where a doctor examines and talks to patients ✧ *Consulting room* is more common in British English than in U.S. English.

con·sum·able /kən'su:məbəl, *Brit* kən'sju:məbəl/ *adj* — used to describe products that need to be replaced after they have been used for a period of time ▪ paper, pencils, and other *consumable* goods

– **consumable** *noun, pl* **-ables** [*count*] — usually plural ▪ paper, pencils, and other *consumables*

con·sume /kən'su:m, *Brit* kən'sju:m/ *verb* **-sumes; -sumed; -sum·ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to eat or drink (something) ▪ The dogs *consume* [=*eat*] a bag of dog food each week. ▪ They *consumed* [=*drank*] a lot of beer at the party. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ He *consumes* [=*devours*] 10 novels a month. ***synonyms*** see EAT

2 : to use (fuel, time, resources, etc.) ▪ The new lights *consume* less electricity. ▪ She's making an effort to live more simply and *consume* less. ▪ Most of our time was *consumed* [=*taken up*] by the search. ▪ The car repair *consumed* [=*used up*] his entire paycheck. — see also TIME-CONSUMING

3 : to destroy (something) with fire ▪ Hundreds of books were *consumed* in the fire. ▪ Fire *consumed* the building.

4 : to take all of a person's attention, energy, time, etc. ▪ Work on the project has *consumed* his attention for many months. = Work on the project has *consumed* him. — usually used as *(be) consumed* ▪ The movie tells the story of a woman *consumed* by ambition/hatred. ▪ He *was consumed* with/by jealousy.

– **consuming** *adj* ▪ He has a *consuming* interest in politics. [=he is extremely interested in politics] ▪ Her ***all-consuming*** passion was music. [=music was an interest that took all of her time and attention; music was the only thing she thought about]

con·sum·er /kən'su:mɚ, *Brit* kən'sju:mɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a person who buys goods and services ▪ Many *consumers* are still not comfortable making purchases on the Internet. — often used before another noun ▪ *Consumer* spending is increasing. ▪ *consumer* services ▪ *consumer* demands/preferences

consumer durables *noun* [*plural*] *Brit* : DURABLE GOODS

consumer goods *noun* [*plural*] : products that people buy for personal use or for use at home ▪ a range of *consumer goods*, from clothing to cameras to food

con·sum·er·ism /kən'su:məˌrɪzəm, *Brit* kən'sju:məˌrɪzəm/ *noun* [*noncount*] *often disapproving*

1 : the belief that it is good for people to spend a lot of money on goods and services

2 : the actions of people who spend a lot of money on goods and services ▪ concerns about increasing *consumerism* among teenagers

– **con·sum·er·ist** /kən'su:mərɪst, *Brit* kən'sju:mərɪst/ *adj* ▪ a *consumerist* culture

consumer price index *noun*

the consumer price index *US* : a list of prices of goods and services that shows how much prices have changed in a given period of time — abbr. *CPI* — called also (*Brit*) *retail price index*

[1]con·sum·mate /'kɑ:nsəmət, kən'sʌmət/ *adj, always used before a noun*

1 : very good or skillful ▪ a *consummate* politician/actor/professional ▪ She's a *consummate* storyteller. ▪ He plays the piano with *consummate* skill.

2 : very bad ▪ *consummate* cruelty/evil ▪ a *consummate* liar

– **con·sum·mate·ly** *adv* ▪ a *consummately* skillful pianist

[2]con·sum·mate /'kɑ:nsəˌmeɪt/ *verb* **-mates; -mat·ed; -mat·ing** [+ *obj*] *formal*

1 : to make (a marriage or romantic relationship) complete by having sex ▪ They were married for three months before the marriage was *consummated*. [=before they had sex]

2 : to make (something) perfect or complete ▪ *consummate* an alliance ▪ The bargaining process went on for a few days, but the deal was never *consummated*. ▪ Their happiness was *consummated* when their son was born.

– **con·sum·ma·tion** /ˌkɑ:nsə'meɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ Without *consummation*, the marriage can be annulled by the church. ▪ the *consummation* of their happiness

con·sump·tion /kən'sʌmpʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 : the act of eating or drinking something ▪ alcohol/milk/chocolate *consumption* = the *consumption* of alcohol/milk/chocolate ▪ Farms in the area grow food mostly for local *consumption*. [=they sell most of the food they grow to people who live nearby] ▪ This food is not fit for human *consumption*. [=not fit to be eaten by people] ▪ The doctor recommended that she reduce her *consumption* of sugar. [=that she eat less sugar]

2 : the use of something (such as fuel) ▪ electricity/gas *consumption* = the *consumption* of electricity/gas ▪ The jet's high fuel *consumption* makes it expensive to operate.

3 : use by a particular group of people ▪ The governor said that the report was not for public *consumption*. [=it was not meant to be seen by the general public; it was intended only for a few people]

4 : the act of buying things ▪ Rates of *consumption* typically rise as income increases. — see also CONSPICUOUS CONSUMPTION

5 *old-fashioned* : TUBERCULOSIS ▪ He died of *consumption*.

con·sump·tive /kən'sʌmptɪv/ *noun, pl* **-tives** [*count*] *old-fashioned* : a person who has tuberculosis ▪ a hospital for *consumptives*

– **consumptive** *adj* ▪ *consumptive* patients

cont. *also* **cont'd** *abbr* continued ▪ *cont.* on page 15 ▪ listings *cont'd* on pg. 4

[1]con·tact /'kɑ:nˌtækt/ *noun, pl* **-tacts**

1 [*noncount*] : the state or condition that exists when two people or things physically touch each other : a state of touching ▪ Physical *contact* between a mother and child is very important. ▪ the point of *contact* between the bat and the ball [=the point where the bat and ball touch each other] ▪ a disease that is spread by sexual *contact* ▪ The players ***made contact*** [=touched or hit each other] and a foul was called. ▪

The train's wheels should ***make contact with*** [=*touch*] the track continuously. ▪ Do not let your skin ***come in/into contact with*** [=*touch*] the acid. ▪ The chemical kills germs ***on contact*** [=as soon as the chemical touches the germs]

2 a [*noncount*] : the state or condition that exists when people see and communicate with each other ▪ The actor has had little *contact* with the public [=has not interacted much with the public] in recent years. ▪ It was during that time that native people first ***came into/in contact with*** [=first saw and began communicating with] the settlers. ▪ She joined a book club to get a little ***human contact*** [=interaction with other people] while the kids were in school. ✧ Your ***contact information*** is the information (such as your telephone number, address, or e-mail address) that tells someone how to communicate with you. ▪ Don't forget to put your *contact information* on the application. ✧ If you are ***in contact*** with someone, you communicate with them sometimes. ▪ "Are you *in contact* [=*in touch*] with them?" "No, I haven't been *in contact* with them for years. I don't even know where they live anymore." ▪ We kept/stayed *in* close *contact* [=we communicated often] after college. ▪ He's been *in* direct *contact* with the president. [=he has communicated directly with the president] ▪ We'd lost touch, but a mutual friend put us *in contact* (with each other) again. ✧ If you ***lose contact*** with someone or something, you are no longer able to communicate with that person or thing. ▪ I *lost contact* [=*lost touch*] with her years ago, but recently got her e-mail address through a mutual friend. ▪ We *lost* radio *contact* with the ship for a short time. [=we could not communicate with the ship using their radio] ✧ If you ***make/establish contact***, you have succeeded in communicating with someone. ▪ She's been trying to *make contact* with distant relatives. ▪ The phone system wasn't working so we weren't able to *make contact*. ▪ We were finally able to *establish contact* with them. **b** [*count*] : an occurrence in which people communicate with each other ▪ *Contacts* between the two leaders have been frequent in recent weeks. — see also EYE CONTACT

3 [*count*] : a person who you know and who can be helpful to you especially in business ▪ I applied for a job at that law firm because I have a *contact* there. ▪ business *contacts* ✧ Someone who is listed as a ***contact*** in information from a company or organization is the person you can write to or call with questions about that company or organization.

4 [*count*] : CONTACT LENS ▪ He lost one of his *contacts* in the swimming pool.

5 [*count*] **a** : the connection of two objects (such as pieces of metal) that allows an electrical current to pass through them ▪ The *contact* must be maintained for the current to flow. **b** : a part through which electricity passes from one object to another ▪ The camera's flash isn't working because the electrical *contacts* need to be cleaned.

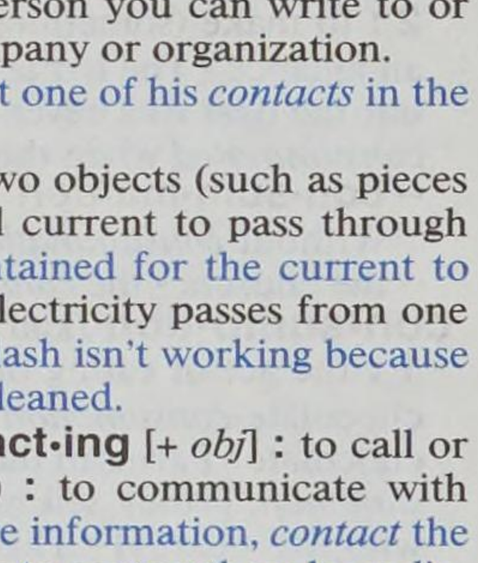
²contact *verb* **-tacts**; **-tact•ed**; **-tact•ing** [+ *obj*] : to call or write to (someone or something) : to communicate with (someone or something) ▪ For more information, *contact* the city's tourism office. ▪ We were able to *contact* them by radio. ▪ She *contacted* everyone on the list.

³contact *adj, always used before a noun*

1 *sports* : allowing players to touch or hit each other ▪ Ice hockey is a *contact* sport.

2 : acting when physical contact occurs ▪ *contact* insecticides/poisons

contact lens *noun, pl* ~ **lenses** [*count*] : a thin piece of round plastic that is worn on the eye to improve vision ▪ She wears *contact lenses* more often than glasses. — called also *contact*



contact lens

con•ta•gion /kən'teɪʤən/ *noun, pl* **-gions** *medical*

1 [*noncount*] : the process by which a disease is passed from one person or animal to another by touching ▪ a disease that spreads by *contagion* ▪ People have been warned to keep out of the area to avoid *contagion*.

2 [*count*] : a disease that can be passed from one person or animal to another by touching : a contagious disease ▪ a deadly *contagion* — often used figuratively ▪ The news created a *contagion* of fear that spread through the country.

con•ta•gious /kən'teɪʤəs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : able to be passed from one person or animal to another by touching ▪ a *contagious* disease ▪ It's a highly *contagious* virus. — compare INFECTIOUS

2 : having a sickness that can be passed to someone else by touching ▪ I have a cold and I'm still *contagious*. ▪ I'm sick, but the doctor says I'm not *contagious*.

3 : capable of being easily spread to others : causing other people to feel or act a similar way ▪ She has a *contagious* smile. [=her smile makes other people smile; her smile makes other people happy] ▪ *contagious* enthusiasm/laughter

– **con•ta•gious•ly** *adv* ▪ a *contagiously* enthusiastic person

– **con•ta•gious•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

con•tain /kən'teɪn/ *verb* **-tains**; **-tained**; **-tain•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to have (something) inside ▪ The box *contains* [=*holds*] an assortment of old papers. ▪ The room was barely big enough to *contain* everyone who came to the meeting.

2 : to have or include (something) ▪ The book *contains* over 200 recipes. ▪ The article *contains* information on how to plan your retirement. ▪ foods that *contain* a high level of fat ▪ The movie *contains* something for both children and adults.

3 : to keep (something) from spreading : to keep (something) within limits ▪ Firefighters *contained* the wildfires. ▪ State health officials have succeeded in *containing* the virus.

4 : to keep (a feeling or yourself) under control ▪ The children could barely *contain* their excitement as the day of the festival drew near. ▪ When she saw that they were all safe, she could not *contain* herself [=control her feelings] and broke into tears of relief. — see also SELF-CONTAINED

– **con•tain•able** /kən'teɪnəbəl/ *adj* ▪ Health officials believe the virus is *containable* and are doing what they can to keep it from spreading. ▪ barely *containable* excitement

con•tain•er /kən'teɪnɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

1 : an object (such as a box or can) that can hold something ▪ The tea leaves come in a small metal *container*. ▪ bowls, boxes, jars, and other *containers*

2 : a large box that goods are placed in so that they can be moved from one place to another on a ship, airplane, train, or truck ▪ The shipment of tools arrived at the dock in cargo *containers* yesterday.

container ship *noun, pl* ~ **ships** [*count*] : a large ship made to carry cargo containers — see picture at SHIP

con•tain•ment /kən'teɪnmənt/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 : the act of preventing the spread of something ▪ The company's hazardous waste *containment* plan is being reviewed. ▪ trying to achieve cost *containment* [=trying to prevent costs from becoming too high]

2 : actions that are intended to keep an unfriendly government from getting more power ▪ The government needs to adopt a *containment* strategy.

con•tam•i•nant /kən'tæmənənt/ *noun, pl* **-nants** [*count*] : something that makes a place or a substance (such as water, air, or food) no longer suitable for use : something that contaminates a place or substance ▪ a water *contaminant*

con•tam•i•nate /kən'tæmə,neɪt/ *verb* **-nates**; **-nat•ed**; **-nat•ing** [+ *obj*] : to make (something) dangerous, dirty, or impure by adding something harmful or undesirable to it ▪ The water was *contaminated* [=*polluted*] with chemicals. ▪ Be careful not to allow bacteria to *contaminate* the wound. ▪ Don't touch the microchip or the oil on your hands will *contaminate* it. ▪ Make sure the white paint is not *contaminated* by any of the other colors. — often used figuratively ▪ The election process has been *contaminated* by corruption. ▪ Racist ideas have *contaminated* their minds.

– **contaminated** *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ *contaminated* food/water – **con•tam•i•na•tion** /kən,tæmə'neɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ *contamination* of the water by chemicals ▪ Clean the wound and bandage it to prevent *contamination*.

cont'd see CONT.

con•tem•plate /'kɑ:ntəm,pleɪt/ *verb* **-plates**; **-plat•ed**; **-plat•ing**

1 a [+ *obj*] : to think deeply or carefully about (something) ▪ I stopped to *contemplate* [=*ponder*] what might have happened. ▪ He *contemplated* the meaning of the poem for a long time. ▪ Life without them is too awful to *contemplate*. [=too awful to even think about] **b** [*no obj*] : to think deeply ▪ I'd like some time to just sit and *contemplate*.

2 [+ *obj*] : to think about doing (something) : CONSIDER ▪ She's *contemplating* moving to the city. = She's *contemplating* a move to the city. ▪ They're *contemplating* marriage. [=they're thinking about getting married]

3 [+ *obj*] : to look carefully at (something) ▪ She stood and

quietly *contemplated* the scene that lay before her.

con•tem•pla•tion /ˌkɑːntəmˈpleɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*]
1 : the act of thinking deeply about something ▪ He made his decision after many hours of *contemplation*. [=*thought, consideration*] ▪ *contemplation* of the meaning of life
2 : the act of looking carefully at something ▪ He goes to the forest to spend time in *contemplation* of nature. ▪ She was lost in quiet *contemplation* of the scene.
in contemplation *formal* : being thought about or considered ▪ A lawsuit against the company is *in contemplation*.

con•tem•pla•tive /kənˈtɛmplətɪv, ˈkɑːntəmˌpleɪtɪv/ *adj*
1 [*more ~; most ~*] : involving, allowing, or causing deep thought ▪ She's in a *contemplative* mood today. [=she is quiet and thoughtful today] ▪ He has lived a quiet, *contemplative* life. ▪ a *contemplative* book
2 : devoted to religious thought and prayer ▪ She joined a *contemplative* order of nuns.
– **con•tem•pla•tive•ly** *adv*

con•tem•po•ra•ne•ous /kənˌtɛmpəˈreɪnijəs/ *adj, formal* : existing or happening during the same time period ▪ the *contemporaneous* publication of the two articles ▪ *contemporaneous* events in the past = events in the past that were *contemporaneous* with each other
– **con•tem•po•ra•ne•ous•ly** *adv* ▪ The articles were published *contemporaneously*. [=at the same time]

[1]con•tem•po•rary /kənˈtɛmpəreri, *Brit* kənˈtɛmpərəri/ *adj*
1 : happening or beginning now or in recent times ▪ *contemporary* [=*modern*] jazz/poetry/art/furniture ▪ The story is old, but it has importance to *contemporary* [=*current*] audiences.
2 : existing or happening in the same time period : from the same time period ▪ The book is based on *contemporary* accounts of the war. [=accounts of the war that were written when the war was happening]

[2]contemporary *noun, pl* **-rar•ies** [*count*] : a person who lives at the same time or is about the same age as another person ▪ He was a *contemporary* of George Washington. ▪ She is politically very different from most of her *contemporaries*.

con•tempt /kənˈtɛmpt/ *noun*
1 : a feeling that someone or something is not worthy of any respect or approval [*noncount*] He feels that wealthy people view/regard him with *contempt* because he is poor. ▪ He spoke with *contempt* in his voice. ▪ She has *contempt* for them. = She ***holds them in contempt***. [*singular*] She has displayed a profound *contempt* for her opponents.
2 : a lack of respect for or fear of something that is usually respected or feared [*noncount*] They have acted with *contempt* for public safety. [=they have completely ignored public safety] [*singular*] He has *contempt* for danger. [=he ignores danger; he is not afraid of doing things that other people are afraid to do]
3 [*noncount*] *law* : speech or behavior that does not show proper respect to a court or judge ▪ She was arrested for ***contempt of court***. ▪ He was ***held in contempt*** [=considered by the court to have broken the law by disobeying or disrespecting the judge] for his outbursts during the trial.
beneath contempt : completely bad or worthless — used to describe someone or something that is too bad to deserve any respect ▪ She's a liar who is *beneath contempt*.
familiarity breeds contempt see FAMILIARITY

con•tempt•ible /kənˈtɛmptəbəl/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *somewhat formal* : not worthy of respect or approval : deserving contempt ▪ a *contemptible* [=*despicable*] lie ▪ I've never met a more selfish, *contemptible* person.
– **con•tempt•ibly** /kənˈtɛmptəbli/ *adv* ▪ a *contemptibly* selfish person

con•temp•tu•ous /kənˈtɛmpʧəwəs/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *somewhat formal* : feeling or showing deep hatred or disapproval : feeling or showing contempt ▪ a *contemptuous* [=*disdainful*] attitude/smile/remark — often + *of* ▪ Scholars were *contemptuous* [=*scornful*] *of* the theory until recent scientific developments proved it possible.
– **con•temp•tu•ous•ly** *adv*

con•tend /kənˈtɛnd/ *verb* **-tends; -tend•ed; -tend•ing**
1 [+ *obj*] : to argue or state (something) in a strong and definite way ▪ These people *contend* that they have earned the right to the land. ▪ She *contends* [=*maintains, asserts*] the new law will only benefit the wealthy.
2 [*no obj*] : to compete with someone or for something ▪ A number of groups are *contending* (with each other) for power in the new government. : to compete with a good chance of winning ▪ The team is expected to *contend* for the championship this year.
contend with [*phrasal verb*] ***contend with (something)*** : to deal with (something difficult or unpleasant) ▪ Customers should not have to *contend with* the problems caused by these delays. ▪ He's had ***a lot to contend with*** recently. [=he's had many problems to deal with]

con•tend•er /kənˈtɛndɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a person who tries to win something in a contest; *especially* : a person who has a good chance of winning ▪ There are several contestants, but only two real *contenders*. ▪ the top/leading presidential *contenders* ▪ This latest defeat means that she's no longer a *contender* for the world title.

[1]con•tent /ˈkɑːnˌtɛnt/ *noun, pl* **-tents**
1 *contents* [*plural*] : the things that are in something ▪ He poured/dumped/emptied the *contents* of the package/box/drawer onto the floor. ▪ The bedroom's *contents* have all been packed. ▪ The brochure describes the *contents* of the museum. ▪ a summary of the book's *contents* ✧ A ***table of contents*** is a list that is placed at the beginning of some books. It shows how the book is divided into sections and at which page each section begins. ▪ The stories included in the book can be found in the *table of contents*.
2 [*noncount*] : the ideas, facts, or images that are in a book, article, speech, movie, etc. ▪ In terms of *content*, the article is good, but it is written poorly. ▪ a summary of the book's *content* ▪ The children aren't allowed to watch movies with violent *content*. [=movies in which violent things happen] ▪ Some of the program's *content* may offend certain viewers.
3 [*noncount*] : the amount of something that is in something else ▪ This beer is low in alcohol *content*. [=does not have a lot of alcohol] ▪ the fat/fiber *content* of food
– compare [4]CONTENT

[2]con•tent /kənˈtɛnt/ *adj, not used before a noun* [*more ~; most ~*] : pleased and satisfied : not needing more ▪ The baby looks *content* in her crib. ▪ A fancy hotel is not necessary; I'd be *content* with a warm meal and a clean place to sleep. ▪ No, I don't want to play. I'm *content* to watch. ▪ Not *content* to stay at home, she set off to see the world at the age of 16. ▪ Polls show that voters are growing less and less *content* with the current administration.

[3]con•tent /kənˈtɛnt/ *verb* **-tents; -tent•ed; -tent•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to make (someone) pleased and satisfied : to make (someone) content ▪ The toys *contented* the children, at least for a little while.
content yourself with : to be satisfied with (something that is less than or different from what you really want) : to accept (something) as being enough ▪ The rainy weather spoiled our plans for the beach, so we had to *content ourselves with* a relaxing day at home.

[4]con•tent /kənˈtɛnt/ *noun* [*noncount*] *literary* : a feeling of being pleased and satisfied : the state of being content ▪ He'd finished his dinner and now there was a look of perfect *content* [=(more commonly) *contentment*] on his face.
to your heart's content see HEART
– compare [1]CONTENT

con•tent•ed /kənˈtɛntəd/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : happy and satisfied : showing or feeling contentment ▪ a *contented* smile ▪ He's a *contented* fellow. ▪ She felt peaceful and *contented*.
– **con•tent•ed•ly** *adv* ▪ smiled *contentedly*

con•ten•tion /kənˈtɛnʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**
1 [*count*] : something (such as a belief, opinion, or idea) that is argued or stated ▪ It is her *contention* [=she believes and says] that the new law will only benefit the wealthy. ▪ Evidence supports the *contention* [=*claim*] that the island was uninhabited before the 18th century.
2 [*noncount*] : anger and disagreement ▪ There has been too much *contention* [=*discord*] in this family in recent years. ▪ The main point of *contention* [=the point that is being argued over] is who has the rights to the land. ▪ That has been a source of *contention* for years. ▪ an issue that is still ***in contention*** [=that is still being argued about; that has not yet been decided] ✧ A ***bone of contention*** is something that causes anger and disagreement. ▪ The tariffs have been a *bone of contention* between the two nations.
3 [*noncount*] : a situation in which you have a chance to win something that you are trying to win ▪ This latest defeat means that she's now ***out of contention*** for the world title. [=there is no longer a chance that she will win the world title] ▪ He is ***in contention*** for the Olympic medal.

con•ten•tious /kənˈtɛnʃəs/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*]
1 a : likely to cause people to argue or disagree ▪ I think it's wise to avoid such a highly *contentious* [=*controversial*] topic/

issue at a dinner party. **b :** involving a lot of arguing ▪ After a *contentious* debate, members of the committee finally voted to approve the funding. ▪ They have a *contentious* relationship. [=they argue with each other a lot]

2 : likely or willing to argue ▪ a *contentious* student ▪ The dispute involves one of the region's most *contentious* leaders.

– con·ten·tious·ly *adv* **– con·ten·tious·ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

con·tent·ment /kənˈtɛntmənt/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the state of being happy and satisfied : the state of being content ▪ He believes that people can find peace and *contentment* in living simply. ▪ There was a look of perfect *contentment* on her face. ▪ a sigh of *contentment*

[1]con·test /ˈkɑːnˌtɛst/ *noun, pl* **-tests** [*count*]

1 : an event in which people try to win by doing something better than others ▪ a fiddle/fishing/singing *contest* [=*competition*] ▪ He won the *contest* for best photograph. = He won the *contest* to see who could take the best photograph. ▪ *Contest* winners receive a cash prize. ▪ Will you enter the *contest*?

— see also BEAUTY CONTEST, POPULARITY CONTEST

2 : a struggle or effort to win or get something ▪ She hopes to win the *contest* for mayor. ▪ the presidential *contest* ▪ Democrats and Republicans are engaged in a *contest* for control of the House of Representatives.

no contest **1** *informal* — used to say that someone or something is much better than another or can easily defeat another ▪ When you compare the old version of the movie with the new one, it's *no contest*. The old one is much better. ▪ The last time I played him it was *no contest*. I won easily. **2** *US, law* **:** a statement in a court of law in which someone who has been charged with a crime does not admit guilt but also does not dispute or argue with the charge ▪ He pleaded *no contest* to (the charge of) driving while intoxicated.

[2]con·test /kənˈtɛst/ *verb* **-tests; -test·ed; -test·ing**

1 [+ *obj*] **:** to make (something) the subject of an argument or a legal case **:** to say that you do not agree with or accept (something) ▪ Several of the dead man's relatives are *contesting* [=*disputing, challenging*] his will (in court). ▪ The losing candidate is *contesting* the results of the election. = (*US*) The losing candidate is *contesting* the election. ▪ The rule is being *contested* by a number of students at the university. [=students are formally complaining about the rule]

2 [+ *obj*] **:** to try to win (something) ▪ She plans to *contest* a seat in Congress next year. ▪ Both candidates have agreed to another debate before this hotly/bitterly *contested* election.

3 [*no obj*] **:** to struggle or fight for or against something ▪ *contesting* for power

con·test·ant /kənˈtɛstənt/ *noun, pl* **-ants** [*count*] **:** a person who takes part in a contest ▪ The *contestant* who catches the most fish wins. ▪ The winning *contestants* will receive a cash prize. ▪ a game-show *contestant*

con·text /ˈkɑːnˌtɛkst/ *noun, pl* **-texts** [*count*]

1 : the words that are used with a certain word or phrase and that help to explain its meaning ▪ To really know a word, you must be able to use it ***in context*** [=in a sentence with other words] ✧ If the words that someone has said are taken or quoted ***out of context***, they are repeated without explaining the situation in which they were said so that their meaning is changed. ▪ When taken *out of context*, his comments sound cruel, but he was really only joking. ▪ The actor claimed he'd been quoted *out of context*.

2 : the situation in which something happens **:** the group of conditions that exist where and when something happens ▪ We need to look at the event within the larger/broader *context* of world history. ▪ The book puts these events in their proper historical and social *contexts*. ▪ We need to consider these events ***in context***

– con·tex·tu·al /kɑnˈtɛkstʃəwəl/ *adj* ▪ *contextual* information ▪ To find the meaning of an unknown word you should look at the ***contextual clues*** provided by the words that are around it. **– con·tex·tu·al·ly** *adv*

con·tex·tu·al·ize *also Brit* **con·tex·tu·al·ise** /kənˈtɛkstʃəwəˌlaɪz/ *verb* **-iz·es; -ized; -iz·ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* **:** to think about or provide information about the situation in which something happens ▪ When the rebellion is historically *contextualized*, it becomes clear that there were many factors contributing to it.

– con·tex·tu·al·i·za·tion *also Brit* **con·tex·tu·al·i·sation** /kənˌtɛkstʃəwələˈzeɪʃən, *Brit* kənˌtɛkstʃuəˌlaɪˈzeɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ historical *contextualization*

con·tig·u·ous /kənˈtɪgjəwəs/ *adj, formal* — used to describe things that touch each other or are immediately next to each other ▪ She's visited each of the 48 *contiguous* states in the U.S., but she hasn't been to Alaska or Hawaii yet. ▪ the mountains *contiguous* to/with our border

– con·ti·gu·i·ty /ˌkɑːntəˈgjuːwəti/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the *contiguity* of the lands

[1]con·ti·nent /ˈkɑːntənənt/ *noun, pl* **-nents**

1 [*count*] **:** one of the great divisions of land (such as North America, South America, Europe, Asia, Africa, Australia, or Antarctica) of the Earth ▪ the African *continent* = the *continent* of Africa

2 *the Continent* *chiefly Brit* **:** the countries of Europe except for Great Britain and Ireland ▪ The book provides information on hotels in Britain and on *the Continent*.

[2]con·ti·nent *adj, medical* **:** able to control your bladder and bowels ▪ Most children are *continent* by age three. — opposite INCONTINENT

– con·ti·nence /ˈkɑːntənəns/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ urinary *continence*

[1]con·ti·nen·tal /ˌkɑːntəˈnɛntl/ *adj*

1 : of, relating to, or located on a continent ▪ *continental* glaciers [=glaciers that cover a large portion of a continent] ▪ the ***continental U.S.*** [=the part of the U.S. that is on the North American continent; the states of the U.S. except for Hawaii]

2 *Continental* **:** of or relating to the countries of Europe except for Great Britain and Ireland ▪ They will be touring *Continental* Europe. ▪ differences between Britain and its *Continental* neighbors

3 : characteristic of Europe ▪ The hotel combines American comfort with *continental* elegance.

[2]continental *noun, pl* **-tals** [*count*] *Brit, somewhat old-fashioned* **:** a person from Continental Europe

continental breakfast *noun, pl* **~ -fasts** [*count*] **:** a light breakfast in a hotel, restaurant, etc., that usually includes baked goods, jam, fruit, and coffee — compare ENGLISH BREAKFAST

continental drift *noun* [*noncount*] *technical* **:** the very slow movement of the continents on the surface of the Earth

continental shelf *noun, pl* **~ shelves** [*count*] *technical* **:** the part of a continent that lies under the ocean and slopes down to the ocean floor

con·tin·gen·cy /kənˈtɪnʤənsi/ *noun, pl* **-cies** [*count*] **:** something (such as an emergency) that might happen ▪ In making our business plans, we tried to prepare for any *contingency* that might hurt sales. ▪ a ***contingency plan*** [=a plan that can be followed if an original plan is not possible for some reason] ▪ a ***contingency fund*** [=an amount of money that can be used to pay for problems that might happen]

contingency fee *noun, pl* **~ fees** [*count*] *US* **:** a payment that you make to a lawyer only if the lawyer wins your case in court

[1]con·tin·gent /kənˈtɪnʤənt/ *adj, formal* **:** depending on something else that might or might not happen — usually + *on* or *upon* ▪ Our plans are *contingent on* the weather.

– con·tin·gent·ly *adv*

[2]contingent *noun, pl* **-gents** [*count*]

1 : a group of people who go to a place together, do something together, or share some quality, interest, etc. ▪ The group that makes up the largest *contingent* of voters in this area is the elderly. ▪ A *contingent* of reporters waited in front of the court for the defendant to appear.

2 : a group of soldiers who come from a particular army and are working together with soldiers from other armies ▪ A British *contingent* was sent to assist the security forces.

con·tin·u·al /kənˈtɪnjuwəl/ *adj*

1 : happening without interruption **:** not stopping or ending ▪ This week we experienced days of *continual* sunshine. ▪ The country has been in a *continual* state of war since it began fighting for its independence.

2 : happening again and again within short periods of time ▪ The *continual* interruptions by the student were annoying the teacher.

– con·tin·u·al·ly *adv* ▪ He is *continually* experimenting with new recipes.

con·tin·u·ance /kənˈtɪnjuwəns/ *noun, pl* **-anc·es** *formal*

1 [*noncount*] **:** the act of continuing for a long period of time ▪ They are making efforts to promote the *continuance* [=*continuation*] of good relations between the two countries.

2 [*noncount*] **:** the period of time when something continues ▪ No changes to the property are allowed during the *continuance* of the lease.

3 [*count*] *US, law* **:** a legal decision that a court case will con-

tinue at a later date ▪ The lawyer asked the judge for a *continuance*.

con·tin·u·a·tion /kən,tɪnjə'weɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**

1 [*count*] : something that starts where something else ends and adds to or continues the first part — usually + *of* ▪ This book is a *continuation of* her first novel. [=it continues the story where the first novel ended] ▪ The class is a *continuation of* the introductory class taught last semester. ▪ The road was built as a *continuation of* the state highway.

2 [*noncount*] : the act of continuing or of causing something to continue — usually + *of* ▪ His counselor felt the *continuation of* therapy would be worthwhile. [=felt that he should continue to receive therapy]

3 [*count*] : the act of beginning again after an interruption — usually singular; usually + *of* ▪ The *continuation of* the meeting was postponed until the next day.

con·tin·ue /kən'tɪnju/ *verb* **-ues; -ued; -u·ing**

1 a : to do something without stopping : to keep doing something in the same way as before [*no obj*] The team will *continue* with their drills until the coach is satisfied with their performance. [+ *obj*] Do you plan to *continue* working after the baby is born? = Do you plan to *continue* to work? ▪ The world's population *continues* to grow. ▪ I *continue* to believe [=I still believe] that we can win this election. **b** [*no obj*] : to stay in a job or position — + *as* ▪ She has announced that she will *continue as* director [=stay in her job as the director] for another year.

2 [*no obj*] : to keep happening or existing : to remain active or in existence without changing or stopping ▪ The traditions will *continue* only as long as the next generations keep them alive. ▪ The good weather *continued* for several days. ▪ The lecture *continued* for another hour after we left.

3 [*no obj*] **a** : to go or move ahead in the same direction ▪ Exit the highway, take a right off the ramp, then *continue* down the street until you get to the first traffic light. ▪ *Continue* along this path until you come to the end. ▪ The boat *continued* downstream. **b** : to go onward : PROGRESS ▪ The plot gets more and more intricate as the story *continues*.

4 : to start again after an interruption or pause : RESUME [*no obj*] The article *continues* in the second section of the newspaper. ▪ The play *continued* after the intermission. ▪ We will *continue* on our journey in the morning. = Our journey will *continue* in the morning. [+ *obj*] The board *continued* their meeting after a short break. ▪ We will *continue* our journey in the morning. ▪ When Mom left the room, we *continued* arguing. ✧ When the words ***to be continued*** appear at the end of something (such as a story or television program), it has not really ended and will continue again at a later time.

5 : to begin speaking again after an interruption or pause [*no obj*] The teacher *continued* only when all the students were sitting quietly in their seats. [+ *obj*] "I understand what you're saying," she *continued*, "but I'm not convinced your idea will work."

– **continuing** *adj* ▪ We are thankful for your *continuing* [=*continued, ongoing*] support. ▪ I'm surprised by the film's *continuing* popularity.

continued *adj, always used before a noun* : lasting or happening for a long time without interruption ▪ Please accept our best wishes for your *continued* success. ▪ The colors of the paint will fade with *continued* exposure to the sun.

continuing education *noun* [*noncount*] : classes taken by adult students usually in the evenings — called also *continuing ed, adult education*

con·ti·nu·i·ty /,kɑ:ntə'nu:wəti, *Brit* ,kɒntə'nju:əti/ *noun, pl* **-ties**

1 [*noncount*] : the quality of something that does not stop or change as time passes : a continuous quality ▪ The new owners have ensured the *continuity* of the company's commitment to protecting the environment. [=have assured that the company's commitment will continue] ▪ The candidate attacked the incumbent for the lack of *continuity* [=*consistency*] in foreign policy under his presidency.

2 [*count*] *formal* : something that is the same or similar in two or more things and provides a connection between them ▪ The art historian is studying the *continuities* between the painter's works and those of her followers.

3 [*noncount*] : the arrangement of the parts in a story, movie, etc., in a way that is logical ▪ There's a problem with the movie's *continuity*.

con·tin·u·ous /kən'tɪnjuwəs/ *adj*

1 [*more ~; most ~*] : continuing without stopping : happening or existing without a break or interruption ▪ The album is divided into different tracks, but it is really one *continuous* song. ▪ The fan keeps a *continuous* [=*uninterrupted*] stream of fresh air flowing through the car. ▪ a *continuous* line of traffic ▪ The batteries provide enough power for up to five hours of *continuous* use.

2 *grammar* : PROGRESSIVE 4 ▪ The phrases "am seeing," "had been seeing," and "is being seen" are all in *continuous* tenses.

– **con·tin·u·ous·ly** *adv* ▪ The volcano has been erupting almost *continuously* since 1980.

con·tin·u·um /kən'tɪnjuwəm/ *noun, pl* **-ua** /-juwə/ *also* **-u·ums** [*count*] *formal* : a range or series of things that are slightly different from each other and that exist between two different possibilities ▪ His motives for volunteering lie somewhere on the *continuum* between charitable and self-serving. ▪ a *continuum* of temperatures ranging from very cold to very hot

con·tort /kən'tɔət/ *verb* **-torts; -tort·ed; -tort·ing** : to twist into an unusual appearance or shape [*no obj*] His body *contorted* with/in pain. [+ *obj*] The boy *contorted* his body to squeeze through the gate. ▪ Her face was *contorted* with/in rage/anger.

– **contorted** *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] ▪ the fossil's *contorted* limbs ▪ We could not follow her *contorted* [=*twisted, convoluted*] reasoning/logic.

con·tor·tion /kən'tɔəʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count*]

1 : the act of twisting something into an unusual shape : the act of contorting something ▪ The clown amused the children with funny facial *contortions*. ▪ The gymnast performed amazing *contortions* (with her body). — sometimes used figuratively ▪ His story was a blatant/obvious *contortion* [=(more commonly) *distortion*] of the truth.

2 : a difficult action ▪ The baby's mom went through the usual *contortions* to get him to eat.

con·tor·tion·ist /kən'tɔəʃənɪst/ *noun, pl* **-ists** [*count*] : a performer who twists his or her body into unusual positions

con·tour /'kɑ:n,tuə/ *noun, pl* **-tours** [*count*] : the outline or outer edge of something ▪ He loved the sleek/smooth/flowing *contours* of the car. ▪ The map showed the *contour* of the coastline.

con·toured /'kɑ:n,tuəd/ *adj*

1 : shaped to fit the outline of something (such as the human body) ▪ The car's *contoured* seats were very comfortable. ▪ a dress with a *contoured* waist

2 : having a smooth shape or outer edge ▪ a nicely *contoured* vase ▪ the *contoured* wing of the aircraft ▪ the *contoured* hills of her native land

con·tra·band /'kɑ:ntrə,bænd/ *noun* [*noncount*] : things that are brought into or out of a country illegally ▪ The border police searched the car for drugs and other *contraband*.

con·tra·bass /'kɑ:ntrə,beɪs/ *noun, pl* **-bass·es** [*count*] : DOUBLE BASS

con·tra·cep·tion /,kɑ:ntrə'sɛpʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] : things that are done to prevent a woman from becoming pregnant : BIRTH CONTROL

con·tra·cep·tive /,kɑ:ntrə'sɛptɪv/ *noun, pl* **-tives** [*count*] : a drug or device (such as birth control pills or a condom) that is used to prevent a woman from becoming pregnant

– **contraceptive** *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ a *contraceptive* device/method/pill

[1]con·tract /'kɑ:n,trækt/ *noun, pl* **-tracts** [*count*]

1 a : a legal agreement between people, companies, etc. ▪ The *contract* requires him to finish work by the end of the year. ▪ If he breaks the *contract* [=if he does not abide by the agreement], he will get sued. ▪ The company won a multi-million-dollar *contract* to build a new courthouse. = The company was awarded a multi-million-dollar *contract* to build a new courthouse. ▪ a marriage *contract* [=an agreement to marry someone] — often used before another noun ▪ *contract* negotiations ▪ *contract* law **b** : a document on which the words of a contract are written ▪ I tore up the *contract*. ▪ Have you signed the *contract* yet?

2 *informal* : an agreement to kill a person for money ▪ His enemies ***put/took out a contract on*** him. [=paid someone to kill him]

by contract : according to the terms stated in a contract : by a legal agreement ▪ We are bound *by contract* to pay the full price.

under contract : required to provide something (such as work or a service) according to the terms stated in a contract ▪ She is *under contract* with the TV station for three more years.

C

[2]con•tract /kən'trækt/ *verb* **-tracts; -tract•ed; -tract•ing**

1 a [+ *obj*] : to make (something) smaller or shorter ▪ She *contracted* her lips into a frown. ▪ *contract* a muscle **b** [*no obj*] : to become smaller ▪ The muscle expands and then *contracts*. ▪ The hot metal *contracted* as it cooled.

2 [+ *obj*] *somewhat formal* : to become ill with (a disease) ▪ He *contracted* [=(more commonly) *caught*] a cold. ▪ She *contracted* chicken pox. ▪ They *contracted* malaria.

3 : to make an agreement by contract to work or to pay someone to work [*no obj*] The carpenter *contracted* (with them) to do the work on their house. [+ *obj*] We *contracted* [=*hired*] a lawyer.

4 /'kɑ:n,trækt/ [+ *obj*] *formal* : to agree to (a marriage, an alliance, etc.) formally ▪ a legally *contracted* marriage ▪ The company *contracted* an alliance with a former competitor.

contract out /'kɑ:n,trækt/ [*phrasal verb*] ***contract (something) out*** *or* ***contract out (something)*** : to agree by contract to pay someone to perform (a job) ▪ The company *contracted out* its manufacturing jobs. [=the company paid another company to do its manufacturing jobs instead of doing them itself]

con•trac•tion /kən'trækʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**

1 [*noncount*] : the act or process of making something smaller or of becoming smaller ▪ The hot metal undergoes *contraction* as it cools. ▪ Two teams were eliminated in the *contraction* of the baseball league.

2 [*count*] *medical* : a movement of a muscle that causes it to become tight and that is sometimes painful; *especially* : a movement of muscles in the womb when a woman is giving birth to a child ▪ She felt *contractions* every two minutes.

3 [*count*] : a short form of a word or word group that is made by leaving out a sound or letter ▪ The word *don't* is a *contraction* of *do not*.

con•trac•tor /'kɑ:n,træktɚ/ *noun, pl* **-tors** [*count*] : a person who is hired to perform work or to provide goods at a certain price or within a certain time ▪ They hired a *contractor* to remodel the kitchen. ▪ a building *contractor*

con•trac•tu•al /kən'trækʧəwəl/ *adj* : of or relating to the things that are required by a contract ▪ They had to fulfill their *contractual* obligations/requirements before they could get paid.

– **con•trac•tu•al•ly** *adv* ▪ The company is *contractually* obligated to pay the union.

con•tra•dict /,kɑ:ntrə'dɪkt/ *verb* **-dicts; -dict•ed; -dict•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 a : to say the opposite of (something that someone else has said) : to deny the truth of (something) ▪ *contradict* a rumor ▪ He *contradicted* the charges of his critics. **b** : to deny or disagree with what is being said by (someone) ▪ My sister doesn't like being *contradicted*.

2 : to not agree with (something) in a way that shows or suggests that it is false, wrong, etc. ▪ She has made statements that *contradict* each other. [=statements that do not agree and that cannot both be true] ▪ The evidence *contradicts* his testimony. [=the evidence does not support or agree with his testimony] ▪ The mayor's actions in office *contradicted* the promises he made during the campaign.

contradict yourself : to say or do something that is opposite or very different in meaning to something else that you said or did earlier ▪ The witness *contradicted herself* when she insisted she could identify the thief even though she had said that the night was too foggy to see clearly.

con•tra•dic•tion /,kɑ:ntrə'dɪkʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**

1 : the act of saying something that is opposite or very different in meaning to something else [*count*] No one was surprised by the defendant's *contradiction* of the plaintiff's accusations. ▪ Her rebuttal contained many *contradictions* to my arguments. [*noncount*] I think I can say ***without fear of contradiction*** [=I can say with absolute certainty] that this year has been very successful for our company.

2 : a difference or disagreement between two things which means that both cannot be true [*count*] There have been some *contradictions* in his statements. ▪ There is a *contradiction* between what he said yesterday and what he said today. [*noncount*] Her statements are mired in *contradiction*. ▪ What he said yesterday is ***in direct contradiction*** to what he said today.

contradiction in terms : a phrase that contains words which have very different or opposite meanings ▪ I think "working vacation" is a *contradiction in terms*.

con•tra•dic•to•ry /,kɑ:ntrə'dɪktəri/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : involving or having information that disagrees with other information : containing a contradiction ▪ The witnesses gave *contradictory* accounts/statements/descriptions of the accident. [=they described the accident in ways that did not agree with each other]

con•trail /'kɑ:n,treɪl/ *noun, pl* **-trails** [*count*] : a stream of water or ice particles created in the sky by an airplane or rocket

con•tra•in•di•cat•ed /,kɑ:ntrə'ɪndə,keɪtəd/ *adj, medical* — used to say that something (such as a treatment, procedure, or activity) should not be done or used in a particular situation for medical reasons ▪ Strenuous exercise is *contraindicated* for patients with severe heart conditions. [=patients who have severe heart conditions should not do strenuous exercise] ▪ The drug is *contraindicated* in patients with certain allergies.

con•tra•in•di•ca•tion /,kɑ:ntrə,ɪndə'keɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count*] *medical* : something (such as a symptom or condition) that is a medical reason for not doing or using something (such as a treatment, procedure, or activity) ▪ The article stated that diabetes was not a *contraindication* to breastfeeding. [=it stated that women who have diabetes can breastfeed]

con•tral•to /kən'træltoʊ/ *noun, pl* **-tos** [*count*] : the lowest female singing voice — usually singular ▪ a singer with a beautiful *contralto*; *also* : a female singer with such a voice ▪ a duet performed by a soprano and a *contralto*

con•trap•tion /kən'træpʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count*] : a piece of equipment or machinery that is unusual or strange ▪ The people wondered how the *contraption* worked.

con•trar•i•an /kən'trerijən/ *noun, pl* **-ans** [*count*] : a person who takes an opposite or different position or attitude from other people ▪ As an investor, he's a *contrarian*, preferring to buy stocks when most people are selling.

– **contrarian** *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ a *contrarian* view/position/attitude

con•trari•wise /'kɑ:n,treri,waɪz, kən'treri,waɪz/ *adv, formal* : in an opposite or very different way — used especially to introduce a statement that contrasts with a preceding statement ▪ Her opponent has little knowledge of foreign policy. *Contrariwise*, she herself has many years of experience in this area.

[1]con•trary /'kɑ:n,treri, *Brit* 'kɑ:ntrəri/ *noun*

on the contrary *also* ***quite the contrary*** — used to state that the opposite of what was said before is true ▪ The test will not be easy; *on the contrary*, it will be very difficult. ▪ The lecture was not boring. *Quite the contrary*, it was very informative and interesting.

the contrary : an opposite or different fact, event, or situation ▪ He was sure his sister had made a mistake, but *the contrary* was true: she was right and he was wrong.

to the contrary : stating or proving the opposite of something ▪ He was no fool, despite talk *to the contrary*. ▪ Unless there is evidence *to the contrary*, we have to believe them.

[2]con•trary /'kɑ:n,treri, *Brit* 'kɑ:ntrəri/ *adj*

1 : exactly opposite to something else : entirely different from something else ▪ The sisters gave *contrary* answers: one said "yes" and one said "no." ▪ We had *contrary* opinions/views on the issue.

2 : against or opposed to something ▪ Without *contrary* evidence, the jury will find her guilty. — often + *to* ▪ Going over the speed limit is *contrary to* traffic laws. [=it is illegal; it is against the law]

3 : not favorable or helpful ▪ The boat sailed against a *contrary* wind. ▪ *Contrary* weather impeded the rescue efforts.

4 /kɑn'treri/ : unwilling to obey or behave well ▪ a *contrary* child

contrary to : in a way or manner that is against (something) ▪ *Contrary to* orders, he left the campsite. ▪ ***Contrary to popular belief*** [=despite what many people believe], these animals are not really dangerous to humans.

– **con•trar•i•ly** /kən'trerəli/ *adv* ▪ The child acted *contrarily*.

– **con•trar•i•ness** /kən'trerinəs/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the child's *contrariness*

[1]con•trast /kən'træst, *Brit* kən'trɑ:st/ *verb* **-trasts; -trast•ed; -trast•ing**

1 [*no obj*] : to be different especially in a way that is very obvious ▪ Her black dress and the white background *contrast* sharply. — often + *with* ▪ Her black dress *contrasts* sharply *with* the white background. ▪ Her actions *contrasted with* her promises.

2 [+ *obj*] : to compare (two people or things) to show how they are different ▪ We compared and *contrasted* the two

characters of the story. — often + *with* or *to* ▪ His essay *contrasted* his life in America *with/to* life in India.
– **contrasting** *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ He wore a dark suit with a necktie in a *contrasting* color. ▪ *contrasting* opinions/views/ideas – **con·trast·ing·ly** *adv*

²con·trast /ˈkɑːnˌtræst, *Brit* ˈkɒnˌtrɑːst/ *noun, pl* **-trasts**
1 [*count*] : something that is different from another thing — + *to* ▪ Today's weather is quite a *contrast to* yesterday's. [=today's weather is very different from yesterday's weather]
2 : a difference between people or things that are being compared [*count*] I observed an interesting *contrast* in/between the teaching styles of the two women. ▪ We talked about the *contrasts* between his early books and his later books. [=the ways in which his early and later books are different] [*noncount*] His comments were ***in stark/marked/sharp contrast with/to*** his earlier statements. [=his comments were very different from his earlier statements]
3 [*noncount*] : the act of comparing people or things to show the differences between them ▪ Careful *contrast* of the twins shows some differences. ▪ ***In contrast to/with*** last year's profits, the company is not doing very well. ▪ The queen's wit and humor made the prince seem dull ***by contrast***. ▪ They spent millions of dollars on advertising. ***By way of contrast***, our small company spent under 5,000 dollars.
4 [*noncount*] : the difference between the dark and light parts of a painting or photograph ▪ a painting with a lot of *contrast* ▪ She was wearing a black dress, so the photographer suggested using a white background for *contrast*.
– **contrasting** *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ They have very *contrasting* [=*different*] styles. – **con·tras·tive** /kənˈtræstɪv, *Brit* kənˈtrɑːstɪv/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* ▪ *contrastive* styles

con·tra·vene /ˌkɑːntrəˈviːn/ *verb* **-venes**; **-vened**; **-ven·ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to fail to do what is required by (a law or rule) : VIOLATE ▪ The overcrowded dance club *contravened* safety regulations.
– **con·tra·ven·tion** /ˌkɑːntrəˈvɛnʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count*] Plagiarism is a *contravention* of school policy. [*noncount*] He cut off trade with the country ***in contravention of*** their treaty. [=he cut off trade in a way that was not allowed by the treaty]

con·tre·temps /ˈkɑːntrəˌtɑːn/ *noun, pl* **con·tre·temps** /ˈkɑːntrəˌtɑːnz/ [*count*] : an unfortunate or embarrassing event, argument, or disagreement ▪ The senator dismissed his disagreement with the President as a minor *contretemps*.

con·trib·ute /kənˈtrɪbjuːt/ *verb* **-utes**; **-ut·ed**; **-ut·ing**
1 : to give (something, such as money, goods, or time) to help a person, group, cause, or organization — usually + *to* or *toward* [+ *obj*] He *contributed* [=*donated*] 100 dollars *to* the charity. ▪ The volunteers *contributed* their time *towards* cleaning up the city. ▪ She *contributed* [=*added*] little *to* the discussion. [*no obj*] We're trying to raise money for a new school, and we're hoping that everyone will *contribute*. ▪ He did not *contribute to* the project.
2 [*no obj*] : to help to cause something to happen ▪ In order for the team to win, everyone has to *contribute*. — usually + *to* ▪ Many players have *contributed to* the team's success. ▪ Heavy drinking *contributed to* her death. [=heavy drinking helped to cause her death]
3 : to write (something, such as a story, poem, or essay) for a magazine [+ *obj*] He *contributed* many poems to the magazine. [*no obj*] Ten scientists *contributed* to the special edition of the journal.
– **contributing** *adj* ▪ The coach's positive attitude was a ***contributing factor*** to/in the team's success. [=the coach's positive attitude was a reason for the team's success] ▪ She has been a ***contributing writer/editor*** for the magazine for 10 years. – **con·trib·u·tor** /kənˈtrɪbjətɚ/ *noun, pl* **-tors** [*count*] ▪ She is a regular/frequent *contributor* to the magazine. ▪ a list of *contributors* who have donated more than one thousand dollars

con·tri·bu·tion /ˌkɑːntrəˈbjuːʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**
1 [*count*] : something that is contributed: such as **a** : something that is given to help a person, a cause, etc. ▪ She made a 100-dollar *contribution* [=*donation*] to breast cancer research. ▪ They thanked him for his *contribution* of time and money. ▪ He made an important *contribution* to the debate. **b** : something that is done to cause something to happen ▪ She's honored for her *contributions* [=*efforts, work*] towards finding a cure for AIDS. ▪ As mayor, he made many positive *contributions* to the growth of the city. **c** : a piece of writing that is published as part of a larger work (such as a magazine, newspaper, or book) ▪ a book of essays including *contributions* from several well-known political columnists
2 [*count*] : a regular payment that is made to an employer or government for something (such as health insurance or a pension)
3 [*noncount*] : the act of giving something : the act of contributing ▪ The money was raised by voluntary *contribution*.

con·trib·u·to·ry /kənˈtrɪbjəˌtori, *Brit* kənˈtrɪbjətri/ *adj, always used before a noun*
1 : helping to cause something ▪ Car exhaust is a major *contributory* factor in air pollution. [=car exhaust is a major cause of air pollution]
2 : paid for by both the employee and employer ▪ a *contributory* pension ▪ *contributory* insurance

con trick *noun, pl* ~ **tricks** [*count*] *Brit* : ¹CON

con·trite /ˈkɑːnˌtraɪt, kənˈtraɪt/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* : feeling or showing regret for bad behavior ▪ a *contrite* [=*remorseful*] criminal ▪ a *contrite* apology
– **con·trite·ly** *adv* ▪ "I should have been more careful," he said *contritely*.

con·tri·tion /kənˈtrɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] *formal* : the state of feeling sorry for bad behavior : the state of being contrite ▪ Were her tears a true sign of *contrition*?

con·triv·ance /kənˈtraɪvəns/ *noun, pl* **-anc·es**
1 *usually disapproving* **a** [*count*] : something that causes things to happen in a story in a way that does not seem natural or believable ▪ The story is filled with ***plot contrivances*** that do not fit the ending. **b** [*noncount*] : the use of contrivances in a story ▪ He told the story honestly and without *contrivance*.
2 [*count*] : a machine or piece of equipment made with skill and cleverness ▪ modern *contrivances* [=*devices*] to cook food faster ▪ a clever *contrivance*
3 : a clever plan or trick [*count*] a *contrivance* to get out of doing the work [*noncount*] He convinced her to go without using *contrivance*.

con·trive /kənˈtraɪv/ *verb* **-trives**; **-trived**; **-triv·ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to form or think of (a plan, method, etc.) ▪ The prisoners *contrived* a way to escape.
2 : to form or make (something) in a skillful or clever way ▪ Native Americans *contrived* [=*designed*] weapons out of stone, wood, and bone.
3 : to make (something) happen in a clever way or with difficulty ▪ He *contrived* a meeting with the president. — often followed by *to* + *verb* ▪ She *contrived* [=*managed*] *to make* it to the airport in time.

contrived *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : having an unnatural or false appearance or quality ▪ The movie's *contrived* ending was a big disappointment. ▪ The results of the test seemed somewhat *contrived*.

¹con·trol /kənˈtroʊl/ *verb* **-trols**; **-trolled**; **-trol·ling** [+ *obj*]
1 : to direct the behavior of (a person or animal) : to cause (a person or animal) to do what you want ▪ The parents could not *control* their child. ▪ The police *controlled* the crowd. ▪ The small boy could not *control* the big dog.
2 : to have power over (something) ▪ Her family *controls* the business. ▪ One country *controls* the whole island. ▪ The rebel army now *controls* nearly half the country.
3 a : to direct the actions or function of (something) : to cause (something) to act or function in a certain way ▪ The lights on stage are *controlled* by this computer. ▪ She struggled to *control* the cart as it rolled before her down the steep, bumpy road. **b** : to set or adjust the amount, degree, or rate of (something) ▪ He *controlled* the volume by turning the radio's knob. ▪ A thermostat *controls* the room's temperature. ▪ The dam *controls* the flow of the river.
4 : to limit the amount or growth of (something) ▪ The farmer used insecticides to *control* the pests. ▪ The state allowed hunting in the area to *control* the deer population. ▪ The government made new laws to *control* pollution. ▪ The firefighters worked all night to *control* the fire.
5 a : to keep (emotions, desires, etc.) from becoming too strong or from being shown ▪ Please *control* your temper. [=keep yourself calm] ▪ He tried hard to *control* his laughter. [=to avoid laughing] ▪ I was hungry, but I *controlled* my appetite [=I resisted the desire to eat] and waited for dinner. **b** : to keep or make (yourself) calm especially when you are angry, upset, or excited ▪ He couldn't *control* himself any longer.
– **con·trol·la·ble** /kənˈtroʊləbəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ The temperature of the room is *controllable*. ▪ The lighter drill was more *controllable* than the heavier one.

C

[2]control *noun, pl* **-trols**

1 [*noncount*] : the power to make decisions about how something is managed or done ▪ The city wanted local *control* of education. ▪ The troops had no *control* [=*choice*] over where they would be stationed. ▪ The tribes fought for *control* over the territory. ▪ He ***took control*** of the family farm. ▪ She hired an accountant to *take control* of her money. ▪ Two-thirds of the market is ***in the control of*** three companies. [=is controlled by three companies] ▪ He always wants to be ***in control***. [=he wants to be the one who makes decisions] ▪ The team is ***under the control of*** a new coach. [=a new coach is in charge of the team; the team has a new coach] ▪ The weather is not ***in/under our control***. = The weather is ***beyond our control***. [=we cannot control the weather]

2 [*noncount*] : the ability to direct the actions of someone or something ▪ He lost all muscle *control* in his left arm. ▪ She no longer has *control* of her (mental) faculties. [=she is no longer able to think clearly or make rational decisions] ▪ The soccer player showed good *control* of the ball. ▪ a teacher with good *control* of her students ▪ The driver ***lost control*** (of the car) and hit a tree. ✧ If you ***lose control*** or ***lose control of yourself***, you become very angry, upset, or excited. ▪ He *lost control of himself* and yelled at his students. ✧ If people or things are ***out of control***, they cannot be handled or managed with success. ▪ The car went *out of control* and crashed. ▪ The child was *out of control*. She ran around the store screaming. ▪ The campfire got *out of control* and started a forest fire. ▪ The situation got *out of control*, and a fight started.

3 : an action, method, or law that limits the amount or growth of something [*count*] The farmer used an organic pest *control* on his crops. ▪ To cut down on competition, the government passed price *controls* on prescription drugs. ▪ The President wants stricter *controls* on immigration. [*noncount*] The two nations talked about arms *control*. [=control of the amount of weapons a country has] ▪ population *control* — see also BIOLOGICAL CONTROL, BIRTH CONTROL, GUN CONTROL, QUALITY CONTROL, RENT CONTROL, *damage control* at [1]DAMAGE

4 [*count*] : a device or piece of equipment used to operate a machine, vehicle, or system ▪ the volume *control* on a television ▪ the *controls* of the aircraft ▪ a car with manual *controls* ▪ a *control* panel ✧ If you are ***at the controls***, you are controlling a vehicle. ▪ The copilot was *at the controls* when the plane landed. — see also REMOTE CONTROL

5 [*singular*] : the group of people who direct or control something (such as the flight of an aircraft) ▪ pilots communicating with air traffic *control* ▪ a *control* tower/room — see also MISSION CONTROL

6 [*count*] : a person, thing, or group that is not treated with something that is being tested in an experiment in order to allow comparison with a treated person, thing, or group ▪ The effects of the drug were clear when the test group was compared with the ***control group***.

in control **1** : having control of something ▪ She will still be *in control* of the sales department. ▪ He managed to stay *in control* of his emotions. **2** : not overly upset or excited : calm and able to think and act in a sensible way ▪ In spite of the pressure to pass the test, he felt calm and *in control*.

under control : able to be handled or managed with success : not out of control ▪ She remained calm and kept the situation *under control*. ▪ A year after the divorce, he finally got his life back *under control*. [=he finally regained control of his life] ▪ The firefighters got the fire *under control*. ▪ You need to get your drinking/gambling/anger *under control*. ▪ Don't worry—I have everything *under control*.

control freak *noun, pl* ~ **freaks** [*count*] *informal* : a person who has a strong need to control people or how things are done ▪ My boss is a real *control freak*.

con•trolled /kənˈtroʊld/ *adj*

1 [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not overly angry or emotional ▪ Instead of arguing, they talked in a calm, *controlled* manner.

2 [*more* ~; *most* ~] : done or organized according to certain rules, instructions, or procedures ▪ The test was done under *controlled* conditions. ▪ The polar bears at the zoo live in a *controlled* environment.

3 — used to describe a drug that is illegal to have or use without permission from a doctor ▪ a *controlled* drug/substance

con•trol•ler /kənˈtroʊlɚ/ *noun, pl* **-lers** [*count*]

1 : a person who is in charge of the money received and paid out by a business or college

2 : a person who directs the action of something ▪ an air traffic *controller*

3 : a device or piece of equipment used to operate a machine, vehicle, or system ▪ a volume *controller*

controlling *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : having a need to control other people's behavior ▪ a *controlling* parent ▪ She is very strict and *controlling*.

2 a : having the power to control how something is managed or done ▪ The larger bank remained the *controlling* party when it took over the smaller banks. ▪ *controlling* shareholders **b** : giving someone the power to control how something is managed or done ▪ He paid over 40 million dollars for a *controlling* interest/share in the company.

con•tro•ver•sial /ˌkɑːntrəˈvɚʃəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : relating to or causing much discussion, disagreement, or argument : likely to produce controversy ▪ Abortion is a highly *controversial* subject/issue/topic. ▪ a decision that remains *controversial* ▪ He is a *controversial* author/director/figure.
– **con•tro•ver•sial•ly** *adv*

con•tro•ver•sy /ˈkɑːntrəˌvɚsi, *Brit* ˈkɒntrəˌvəːsi, kənˈtrɒvəsi/ *noun, pl* **-sies** : argument that involves many people who strongly disagree about something : strong disagreement about something among a large group of people [*noncount*] The decision aroused/created much *controversy* among the students. ▪ The new movie is a subject/topic of *controversy*. ▪ There is *controversy* surrounding the team's decision to trade the star pitcher. ▪ The *controversy* is over whether he should be fired or not. [*count*] A *controversy* arose over the new law.

con•tro•vert /ˈkɑːntrəˌvɚt/ *verb* **-verts**; **-vert•ed**; **-vert•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to say or prove that (something) is untrue ▪ The attorney offered evidence that *controverted* the plaintiff's allegations.

con•tus•ion /kənˈtuːʒən, *Brit* kənˈtjuːʒən/ *noun, pl* **-ions** [*count*] *medical* : an injury that usually does not break the skin : BRUISE ▪ He suffered multiple *contusions* of the leg.

co•nun•drum /kəˈnʌndrəm/ *noun, pl* **-drums** [*count*] : a confusing or difficult problem ▪ He is faced with the *conundrum* [=*dilemma*] of trying to find a job without experience. ▪ an ethical *conundrum*

con•ur•ba•tion /ˌkɑːnɚˈbeɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count*] *chiefly Brit* : a large area consisting of cities or towns that have grown so that there is very little room between them ▪ a *conurbation* of cities along the river

con•va•lesce /ˌkɑːnvəˈlɛs/ *verb* **-lesc•es**; **-lesced**; **-lesc•ing** [*no obj*] : to become healthy and strong again slowly over time after illness, weakness, or injury ▪ She spent two months *convalescing* [=*recuperating, recovering*] at home after her surgery. ▪ He is *convalescing* from his leg injuries.

con•va•les•cence /ˌkɑːnvəˈlɛsn̩s/ *noun* : the process or period of becoming well again after an illness or injury [*singular*] a prolonged *convalescence* ▪ We visited her during her *convalescence* from surgery. [*noncount*] a period of *convalescence*

con•va•les•cent /ˌkɑːnvəˈlɛsn̩t/ *adj*

1 : going through the process of becoming well again after an illness or injury ▪ the *convalescent* stage of his treatment ▪ The nurse tended to the *convalescent* patients/soldiers.

2 : used for patients who are becoming well again after an illness or injury ▪ He spent six months recuperating in a *convalescent* home/hospital. ▪ a *convalescent* ward
– **convalescent** *noun, pl* **-cents** [*count*] ▪ The nurse took care of the *convalescents*.

con•vec•tion /kənˈvɛkʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] *technical* : movement in a gas or liquid in which the warmer parts move up and the colder parts move down ▪ *convection* currents; *also* : the transfer of heat by this movement ▪ foods cooked by *convection*

convection oven *noun, pl* ~ **-ens** [*count*] : an oven with a fan that moves hot air around so that food cooks evenly

con•vene /kənˈviːn/ *verb* **-venes**; **-vened**; **-ven•ing** : to come together in a group for a meeting [*no obj*] The students *convened* [=*assembled*] in the gym. ▪ We *convened* at the hotel for a seminar. ▪ This class *convenes* twice a week. [+ *obj*] *convene* a meeting ▪ A panel of investigators was *convened* by the president to review the case.

[1]con•ve•nience /kənˈviːnjəns/ *noun, pl* **-nienc•es**

1 [*noncount*] : a quality or situation that makes something easy or useful for someone by reducing the amount of work or time required to do something ▪ An elevator was available for the shoppers' *convenience*. ▪ I enjoy the *convenience* of living near a post office. ▪ ***For your convenience***, we have

added a feature that allows you to pay your bills over the Internet. — opposite INCONVENIENCE; see also MARRIAGE OF CONVENIENCE

2 [*noncount*] : a time that is appropriate for doing something or that is suitable for someone ▪ I'll be happy to meet with you ***at your convenience***. [=at a time that is convenient for you; at a time that will not cause you too much trouble or effort] ▪ Please come to my office ***at your earliest convenience***.

3 [*count*] : something (such as a device) that makes you more comfortable or allows you to do things more easily ▪ Our hotel room was equipped with all the modern *conveniences*. ▪ They enjoyed the *conveniences* of flying first class.

²convenience *adj, always used before a noun* : designed for quick and easy preparation ▪ Frozen pizza is a popular *convenience* food. ▪ *convenience* snacks

convenience store *noun, pl* ~ **stores** [*count*] *chiefly US* : a small store that is open for many hours of the day

con•ve•nient /kənˈviːnjənt/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : allowing you to do something easily or without trouble ▪ When is a *convenient* time for you to meet? ▪ The controls are located in a *convenient* spot on the dashboard. ▪ It might be more *convenient* to use a calculator, rather than adding the numbers yourself. ▪ a *convenient* method/way/means of cleaning windows — opposite INCONVENIENT

2 : located in a place that is nearby and easy to get to ▪ a *convenient* drugstore ▪ Schools, churches, and stores are all *convenient* from here.

3 : giving you a reason to do something that you want to do ▪ The power failure was a *convenient* excuse to leave work early. ▪ The economic recession gave lawmakers a *convenient* pretext for passing the bill.

– **con•ve•nient•ly** *adv* ▪ Several restaurants are *conveniently* located nearby.

con•vent /ˈkɑːnvənt/ *noun, pl* **-vents** [*count*] : a group of nuns who live together ▪ She joined a *convent*.; *also* : the house or buildings they live in — compare MONASTERY

con•ven•tion /kənˈvɛnʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**

1 [*count*] : a large meeting of people who come to a place for usually several days to talk about their shared work or other interests or to make decisions as a group ▪ We go to the weeklong annual teachers' *convention* every summer. ▪ He bought some new books at the science fiction *convention*. ▪ a constitutional *convention* [=a meeting in which political leaders create a constitution] ▪ The Democratic National *Convention* will meet next week to announce their party's candidate for president. ▪ The conference was held at the new ***convention center***. [=a building or set of buildings designed to hold many people and meetings]

2 : a custom or a way of acting or doing things that is widely accepted and followed [*count*] It's important to follow the *conventions* of punctuation in a paper for school. ▪ They say school is just as important for teaching children social codes and *conventions* as for teaching math. ▪ Many sports shows have recently adopted the *conventions* of the talk show. [*noncount*] a poet who rebels against literary *convention* ▪ The award that ***by convention*** should have gone to the student with the highest grade went instead to the teacher's favorite. ▪ a director who has always ***defied convention*** [=done unexpected or unusual things] in his movies ▪ As ***a matter of convention***, the oldest members speak first.

3 [*count*] : a traditional or common style often used in literature, theater, or art to create a particular effect ▪ artistic *conventions* ▪ The director's use of the usual romantic *conventions* made the film boring and predictable. ▪ His latest novel uses the *conventions of* early 19th-century literature.

4 [*count*] *formal* : a formal agreement between two groups (such as countries or political organizations) ▪ an international *convention* banning the spread of nuclear weapons ▪ the United Nations *Convention* on the Law of the Sea

con•ven•tion•al /kənˈvɛnʃənl/ *adj*

1 *always used before a noun* **a** : used and accepted by most people : usual or traditional ▪ The number sign is the *conventional* symbol for labeling something measured in pounds. ▪ Today, many patients seek healing through both alternative medicine and ***conventional medicine***. [=the usual methods of healing or treating disease that are taught in Western medical schools] **b** : of a kind that has been around for a long time and is considered to be usual or typical ▪ While microwaves heat up food more quickly, most food tastes better when it is cooked in a ***conventional oven***.

2 [*more* ~; *most* ~] : common and ordinary : not unusual ▪ Most of her books are *conventional* detective stories. ▪ His views on dating are more *conventional* than those of some of his friends.

3 *always used before a noun* : not nuclear ▪ *conventional* weapons ▪ *conventional* forces/warfare/war

– **con•ven•tion•al•i•ty** /kənˌvɛnʃəˈnæləti/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ The *conventionality* of his views on economics surprised us. – **con•ven•tion•al•ly** *adv* ▪ He's not *conventionally* attractive, but he has an interesting face that is not at all unpleasant to look at.

conventional wisdom *noun* [*noncount*] : opinions or beliefs that are held or accepted by most people ▪ *Conventional wisdom* in Hollywood says that a movie can't succeed unless it stars a famous actor or actress.

con•ven•tion•eer /kənˌvɛnʃəˈniɚ/ *noun, pl* **-eers** [*count*] *US* : a person who goes to a convention (sense 1)

con•verge /kənˈvɚdʒ/ *verb* **-verg•es**; **-verged**; **-verg•ing** [*no obj*]

1 : to move toward one point and join together : to come together and meet ▪ The two roads *converge* in the center of town. — opposite DIVERGE

2 : to meet or come together to form a crowd or group ▪ Students *converged* in the parking lot to say goodbye after graduation. — often + *on* ▪ Six police cars *converged on* the accident scene. ▪ Reporters from five different news sources *converged on* her after the game.

3 : to come together and have one interest, purpose, or goal ▪ Economic forces *converged* to bring the country out of a recession. ▪ Many companies are combining rapidly *converging* communication technology into one device that can act as a phone, take photographs, and send e-mail.

– **con•ver•gence** /kənˈvɚdʒəns/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ The *convergence* of political corruption and religious oppression led to civil war. – **con•ver•gent** /kənˈvɚdʒənt/ *adj* ▪ *convergent* lines ▪ The meeting focused on the companies' *convergent* interests.

con•ver•sant /kənˈvɚsn̩t/ *adj, not used before a noun* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 *formal* — used to say that someone knows about something or has experience with it; + *with* ▪ He is (thoroughly) *conversant with* the facts of the case. ▪ They're *conversant with* the issues.

2 *US* : able to talk in a foreign language ▪ She's *conversant* in several languages.

con•ver•sa•tion /ˌkɑːnvɚˈseɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**

1 : an informal talk involving two people or a small group of people : the act of talking in an informal way [*count*] a casual/telephone/private *conversation* ▪ He mentioned it during (the course of) our *conversation*. ▪ Do you remember our *conversation* about that new movie? ▪ The *conversation* turned to music. = Music became the topic of the *conversation*. ▪ We got into a long *conversation* about his behavior. ▪ I had a nice *conversation* [=(less formally) *chat*] with your mother. ▪ They were engaged in a lengthy *conversation* about politics. ▪ It was so noisy that we could hardly ***carry on a conversation***. [=*talk*] ▪ a perfect spot to ***hold a quiet conversation*** [=*talk*] ▪ She often ***strikes up conversations*** with strangers. [=she often talks to strangers] [*noncount*] The topic came up in *conversation*. ▪ They were so deep in *conversation* that they barely noticed me. ▪ He kept trying to engage me in *conversation*. ▪ She's skilled in the art of *conversation*. ▪ an interesting topic of *conversation* ▪ "Where are you from?" he asked, trying to ***make conversation***. [=start a conversation]

2 [*count*] : something that is similar to a spoken conversation ▪ We had a *conversation* by e-mail.

con•ver•sa•tion•al /ˌkɑːnvɚˈseɪʃənl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : relating to or suggesting informal talk : relating to or suggesting conversation ▪ *conversational* skills ▪ The article is written in a *conversational* [=*informal*] style/tone. ▪ The class was in *conversational* French. [=the informal French that is used when people talk to each other]

– **con•ver•sa•tion•al•ly** *adv*

con•ver•sa•tion•al•ist /ˌkɑːnvɚˈseɪʃənl̩ɪst/ *noun, pl* **-ists** [*count*] : a person who likes or is good at conversation ▪ a good/lively/witty *conversationalist* ▪ She's not much of a *conversationalist*.

conversation piece *noun, pl* ~ **pieces** [*count*] : something new or unusual that gives people a subject to talk about ▪ The exotic plant in our living room is a *conversation piece* that guests always ask about.

¹converse /kənˈvɚs/ *verb* **-vers•es**; **-versed**; **-vers•ing** [*no obj*] *formal* : to talk usually informally with someone : to have a conversation ▪ They *conversed* quietly in the corner of

the room. ▪ At home we often *converse* in Spanish. — often + *with* ▪ He knows enough German to *converse with* the locals.

[2]con•verse /ˈkɑːnˌvɚs/ *noun*

the converse *formal* : something that is the opposite of something else ▪ They need our help, but *the converse* is also true: we need their help as well.

[3]con•verse /kənˈvɚs, ˈkɑːnˌvɚs/ *adj, formal* : opposite or reverse ▪ One must also consider the *converse* case/problem. ▪ a *converse* effect

con•verse•ly *adv, formal* : in a way that is the opposite of something else ▪ Large objects appear to be closer. *Conversely*, small objects seem farther away.

con•ver•sion /kənˈvɚʒən, *Brit* kənˈvɚːʃən/ *noun, pl* **-sions**

1 a : the act or process of changing from one form, state, etc., to another — often + *to* or *into* [*count*] The company is undergoing a *conversion to* a new computer system. [*noncount*] They have suggested *conversion* of the old school *into* apartments. ▪ *Conversion to* gas heating will continue over the next few years. **b** : the act or process of changing from one religion, belief, political party, etc., to another — often + *to* [*count*] a *conversion* from Catholicism *to* Judaism [*noncount*] He is thinking about *conversion to* Buddhism.

2 [*count*] **a** : a successful attempt at scoring extra points in rugby or American football ▪ a 2-point *conversion* **b** *American football* : a successful attempt to move the ball forward 10 yards ▪ a third-down *conversion*

[1]con•vert /kənˈvɚt/ *verb* **-verts; -vert•ed; -vert•ing**

1 a [+ *obj*] : to change (something) into a different form or so that it can be used in a different way — usually + *to* or *into* ▪ The cells absorb light and *convert* it *to* energy. ▪ How do you *convert* pounds *to* grams? ▪ I need to *convert* my pesos back *into* dollars. [=I need to exchange my pesos for dollars] ▪ We *converted* the attic *into* a bedroom. **b** [*no obj*] : to change to a different system, method, etc. — usually + *to* ▪ The factory *converted to* newer machinery. **c** [*no obj*] : to change from one form or use to another — usually + *to* or *into* ▪ The sofa *converts* easily *into* a bed.

2 a [*no obj*] : to change from one religion, belief, political party, etc., to another — often + *to* ▪ He *converted to* Islam. **b** [+ *obj*] : to persuade (someone) to change from one religion, belief, political party, etc., to another — often + *to* ▪ The missionaries *converted* the native people to Christianity. ▪ They tried to *convert* us *to* their way of thinking. — see also *preach to the converted* at PREACH

3 a : to score extra points after a goal or touchdown in rugby or American football [*no obj*] They tried for two points but could not *convert*. [+ *obj*] (*rugby*) They failed to *convert* the try. **b** : to use (an opportunity, such as an opportunity to score points) successfully [+ *obj*] They had many chances to score but they couldn't *convert* their opportunities. [*no obj*] They had chances to score but couldn't *convert*.

[2]con•vert /ˈkɑːnˌvɚt/ *noun, pl* **-verts** [*count*] : a person who has changed to a different religion, belief, political party, etc. ▪ a religious *convert* ▪ I didn't think I'd like paying my bills online, but now I'm a *convert*.

con•vert•er *also* **con•vert•or** /kənˈvɚtɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** *also* **-ors** [*count*] *technical* : a piece of equipment that changes something (such as radio signals, radio frequencies, or data) from one form to another — see also CATALYTIC CONVERTER

[1]con•vert•ible /kənˈvɚtəbəl/ *adj* : able to be changed into another form ▪ a *convertible* sofa [=a sofa that converts into a bed] ▪ a *convertible* currency ▪ The bonds are *convertible* into stock.

– **con•vert•ibil•i•ty** /kənˌvɚtəˈbɪləti/ *noun* [*noncount*]

[2]convertible *noun, pl* **-ibles** [*count*] : a car with a roof that can be lowered or removed — see picture at CAR; compare HARDTOP

con•vex /kɑnˈvɛks, ˈkɑːnˌvɛks/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : having a shape like the outside of a bowl : curving outward ▪ a *convex* lens/mirror — opposite CONCAVE

con•vex•i•ty /kənˈvɛksəti/ *noun, pl* **-ties** *technical*

1 [*noncount*] : the quality or state of being curved outward : the quality or state of being convex ▪ the *convexity* of the lens

2 [*count*] : a shape that is curved outward : a convex shape ▪ the *convexities* along the surface

con•vey /kənˈveɪ/ *verb* **-veys; -veyed; -vey•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 *formal* : to take or carry (someone or something) from one place to another : TRANSPORT ▪ The singer was *conveyed* from her hotel to the airport by limousine. ▪ They *conveyed* the goods by ship. ▪ The pipes *convey* water to the fields.

2 : to make (something) known to someone ▪ Words *convey* [=*communicate*] meaning. ▪ Mere words could not *convey* his joy. [=he could not express his joy in words] ▪ The painting *conveys* [=*expresses*] a sense/feeling of motion. ▪ Her appearance *conveys* self-confidence. ▪ The message *conveyed* a sense of urgency.

3 *law* : to change the ownership of (property) from one person to another ▪ He *conveyed* the estate to his son.

con•vey•ance /kənˈvejəns/ *noun, pl* **-anc•es** *formal*

1 [*noncount*] : the act of taking or carrying someone or something from one place to another ▪ the *conveyance* of goods/passengers

2 [*count*] : something that carries people or things from one place to another : VEHICLE ▪ public *conveyances*

3 [*noncount*] : the act of making something known to someone ▪ the *conveyance* of meaning

4 [*count*] *law* : a legal document that changes the ownership of property from one person to another

con•vey•anc•ing /kənˈvejənsɪŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*] *chiefly Brit, law* : the act or business of preparing deeds, leases, or other documents to change the ownership of property from one person to another

con•vey•or *also* **con•vey•er** /kənˈvejɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ors** *also* **-ers** [*count*] : someone or something that conveys something: such as **a** : a long strip of material (such as canvas or rubber, etc., that moves continuously and carries objects (such as packages or luggage) from one place to another — called also *conveyor belt* **b** *formal* : someone who makes something known to someone else ▪ the *conveyor* of good news

[1]con•vict /kənˈvɪkt/ *verb* **-victs; -vict•ed; -vict•ing** *law* : to prove that someone is guilty of a crime in a court of law [*no obj*] There is sufficient evidence to *convict*. [+ *obj*] He was *convicted* in federal court. ▪ The jury *convicted* them on three counts of fraud. ▪ Have you ever been *convicted* of a crime? ▪ a *convicted* criminal — compare ACQUIT

[2]con•vict /ˈkɑːnˌvɪkt/ *noun, pl* **-victs** [*count*] : a person who has been found guilty of a crime and sent to prison : PRISONER ▪ an escaped *convict*

con•vic•tion /kənˈvɪkʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**

1 *law* : the act of proving that a person is guilty of a crime in a court of law [*noncount*] She hopes to avoid *conviction*. [*count*] In light of the evidence, a *conviction* seems certain. ▪ He has three prior/previous drunk-driving *convictions*. ▪ *Convictions* for shoplifting have made it difficult for her to get a job.

2 a [*count*] : a strong belief or opinion ▪ religious *convictions* ▪ a person of deep *convictions* ▪ They share my strong/firm *conviction* that the policy is misguided. **b** [*noncount*] : the feeling of being sure that what you believe or say is true ▪ She spoke with *conviction*. ▪ His words lacked *conviction*.

con•vince /kənˈvɪns/ *verb* **-vinc•es; -vinced; -vinc•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to cause (someone) to believe that something is true ▪ He *convinced* me that the story was true. ▪ They *convinced* us of their innocence. ▪ I managed to *convince* myself that I was doing the right thing.

2 : to cause (someone) to agree to do something : PERSUADE ▪ We *convinced* them to go along with our scheme. ▪ I was unable to *convince* her to stay.

convinced *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 *not used before a noun* : completely certain or sure about something ▪ I was never fully *convinced* of his innocence. [=I always believed that he might be guilty] ▪ You still don't sound *convinced*. ▪ She's still *convinced* that we're wrong. — opposite UNCONVINCED

2 *always used before a noun* : believing strongly in something ▪ a *convinced* Christian

convincing *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : causing someone to believe that something is true or certain ▪ Your argument/story isn't very *convincing*. ▪ They make a *convincing* case for reform. ▪ There is no *convincing* evidence to support his theory. — opposite UNCONVINCING

2 *of a victory* : easily achieved : clearly showing that one person or team is better than the other ▪ a *convincing* [=*decisive*] victory/win

– **con•vinc•ing•ly** *adv* ▪ She argued *convincingly* [=*persuasively*] that more money should be given to public schools. ▪ They won *convincingly*.

con•viv•i•al /kənˈvɪvijəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* : of or relating to social events where people can eat, drink, and talk in a friendly way with others ▪ a *convivial* [=*lively*] atmo-

sphere ▪ a *convivial* gathering ▪ a *convivial* [=*cheerful, friendly*] host
– **con•viv•i•al•i•ty** /kənˌvɪviˈæləti/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ an atmosphere of *conviviality*

con•vo•ca•tion /ˌkɑːnvəˈkeɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** *formal*
1 [*count*] **a** : a large formal meeting of people (such as church officials) **b** *US* : a meeting of the members of a college or university to observe a particular ceremony (such as the beginning of the school year or the announcing of awards and honors) — often used before another noun ▪ a *convocation* center ▪ a *convocation* address/ceremony
2 [*noncount*] : the act of calling a group of people to a formal meeting ▪ They called for the immediate *convocation* of the council.

con•voke /kənˈvoʊk/ *verb* **-vokes**; **-voked**; **-vok•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to call a group of people to a formal meeting or convocation ▪ The assembly was *convoked* for a special session. ▪ They *convoked* a meeting of the delegates.

con•vo•lut•ed /ˈkɑːnvəˌluːtəd/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*]
1 : very complicated and difficult to understand ▪ *convoluted* logic ▪ a *convoluted* plot ▪ The argument was so *convoluted* [=*intricate, involved*] that most people missed the point.
2 *formal* : having many twists and curves ▪ a *convoluted* structure

con•vo•lu•tion /ˌkɑːnvəˈluːʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** *formal*
1 : something that is very complicated and difficult to understand [*count*] I found it hard to follow the *convolutions* of the book's plot. [*noncount*] a plot full of *convolution* and confusion
2 [*count*] : a twist or curve — usually plural ▪ the *convolutions* of the road

[1]con•voy /ˈkɑːnˌvɔɪ/ *noun, pl* **-voys** : a group of vehicles or ships that are traveling together usually for protection [*count*] a military *convoy* ▪ a long *convoy* of trucks ▪ The President always travels in a *convoy*. ▪ The United Nations is sending an ***aid/relief convoy***. [=a group of vehicles carrying food and supplies] [*noncount*] The ships were sailing ***in convoy***. [=together in a line]

[2]convoy *verb* [+ *obj*] *formal* : to travel with and protect (someone or something) ▪ The tankers were *convoyed* by warships. ▪ Police and FBI agents *convoyed* the President to the White House.

con•vulse /kənˈvʌls/ *verb* **-vuls•es**; **-vulsed**; **-vuls•ing**
1 a [*no obj*] *medical* : to have an experience in which the muscles in your body shake in a sudden violent way that you are not able to control : to experience convulsions ▪ The patient reacted to the medication and began *convulsing*. **b** — used when something (such as laughter) causes a person's whole body to shake [*no obj*] The audience *convulsed* [=*shook*] with/in laughter. [+ *obj*] — usually used as *(be) convulsed* ▪ The audience *was convulsed* with/by laughter.
2 [+ *obj*] *formal* : to affect (someone or something) suddenly and violently ▪ The country was *convulsed* by war. ▪ Riots *convulsed* the nation.

con•vul•sion /kənˈvʌlʃən/ *noun, pl* **-sions** [*count*]
1 a *medical* : a sudden violent shaking of the muscles in your body that you are unable to control — usually plural ▪ The patient suffers from *convulsions*. ▪ He suddenly went into *convulsions*. **b** : a sudden experience of something (such as laughter) that shakes or moves your body — usually plural ▪ The joke sent the audience into ***convulsions of laughter***.
2 : a sudden change or disturbance that affects a country, organization, etc. — usually plural ▪ an era of political *convulsions* [=*upheavals*] ▪ The controversial exhibit caused *convulsions* in the artistic community.

con•vul•sive /kənˈvʌlsɪv/ *adj*
1 : involving or causing a sudden violent shaking of the muscles in your body that you are unable to control ▪ a *convulsive* seizure/attack ▪ a *convulsive* disorder
2 : causing the entire body to shake ▪ *convulsive* laughter
– **con•vul•sive•ly** *adv* ▪ His body shook *convulsively*. ▪ They laughed *convulsively*.

coo /ˈkuː/ *verb* **coos**; **cooed**; **coo•ing**
1 [*no obj*] : to make the soft sound of a dove or pigeon; *also* : to make a similar sound ▪ The baby *cooed* quietly in her crib. ▪ The baby was making a *cooing* sound.
2 : to talk in a soft, quiet, and loving way [*no obj*] They all *cooed* over the baby pictures. [+ *obj*] "Oh, how sweet," she *cooed*.
– **coo** *noun, pl* **coos** [*count*] ▪ We listened to the *coos* of the pigeons.

[1]cook /ˈkʊk/ *noun, pl* **cooks** [*count*] : someone who prepares and cooks food for eating at home, in a restaurant, etc. ▪ He's a good *cook*. [=he cooks well]

[2]cook *verb* **cooks**; **cooked**; **cook•ing**
1 : to prepare (food) for eating especially by using heat [+ *obj*] *Cook* the onions over low/medium/high heat. ▪ She *cooked* a great meal. ▪ I'll *cook* dinner tonight. ▪ The fish was *cooked* in a white wine sauce. ▪ Carrots can be *cooked*, but they are often eaten raw. ▪ a *cooked* chicken ▪ Are the potatoes ***cooked through***? [=*done*] = Are the potatoes fully/thoroughly *cooked*? [*no obj*] We're too busy to *cook* at home. ▪ He enjoys *cooking* on the weekends.
2 [*no obj*] : to go through the process of being cooked ▪ The rice is still *cooking*, but it will be ready in 10 minutes.
3 [*no obj*] *informal* : to happen or take place ▪ What's *cooking*? ▪ There's something *cooking*, but he won't say what.
be cooking *informal* : to be performing or doing something well ▪ The economy *is* really *cooking*. ▪ That's it! ***Now you're cooking***!
cook someone's goose *informal* : to make it certain that someone will fail, lose, etc. ▪ They were already trailing, and that last goal really *cooked their goose*. ▪ ***Their goose was cooked*** after that last goal.
cook the books *informal* : to dishonestly change official records of how much money was spent and received ▪ They *cooked the books* to drive up the company's stock prices.
cook up [*phrasal verb*] ***cook up (something) or cook (something) up*** **1** : to prepare (food) for eating especially quickly ▪ I can *cook up* some hamburgers. **2** : to invent (something, such as an idea, excuse, etc.) to deal with a particular situation ▪ They *cooked up* [=*devised, hatched*] a scheme to fool their neighbor. ▪ You'll have to *cook* an excuse *up* quickly.

cook•book /ˈkʊkˌbʊk/ *noun, pl* **-books** [*count*] *chiefly US* : a book of recipes : a book of directions explaining how to prepare and cook various kinds of food — called also (*Brit*) *cookery book*; see picture at KITCHEN

cook•er /ˈkʊkɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]
1 *US* : a piece of equipment that is used to cook food ▪ a ***slow cooker*** [=an electric pot that slowly cooks food] ▪ a ***rice cooker*** [=an electric pot that is used for cooking rice] ▪ a ***pasta cooker*** [=a pot that is used for cooking pasta on a stove] — see also PRESSURE COOKER
2 *Brit* : a large piece of kitchen equipment that consists of an oven and a stove ▪ a gas *cooker* [=(*US*) *range*]

cook•ery /ˈkʊkəri/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the art or activity of cooking food ▪ Mexican *cookery* [=*cooking, cuisine*] ▪ the basics of fish *cookery*

cookery book *noun, pl* ~ **books** [*count*] *Brit* : COOKBOOK

cook•ie /ˈkʊki/ *noun, pl* **-ies** [*count*]
1 *chiefly US* : a sweet baked food that is usually small, flat, and round and is made from flour and sugar ▪ This recipe makes about two dozen *cookies*. ▪ She put a batch of *cookies* into the oven. ▪ chocolate chip *cookies* — often used before another noun ▪ a *cookie* jar ▪ *cookie* dough — see picture at BAKING; see also FORTUNE COOKIE
2 *informal* : PERSON ▪ Don't worry about her—she's a ***tough cookie***. ▪ You are one ***smart cookie***.
3 *computers* : a file that may be added to your computer when you visit a Web site and that contains information about you (such as an identification code or a record of the Web pages you have visited)
that's the way the cookie crumbles *informal* — used when something bad has happened to say that you must accept things the way they are ▪ I'm disappointed that I didn't get the job but *that's the way the cookie crumbles*. [=*that's how it goes*]

cookie cutter *noun, pl* ~ **-ters** [*count*] *chiefly US* : a metal or plastic object that is pressed into the dough that is used to make cookies to give them a certain shape

cookie–cutter *adj, US, disapproving* : very similar to other things of the same kind : not original or different ▪ a neighborhood of *cookie-cutter* houses ▪ Opponents accused the candidate of taking a *cookie-cutter* approach to the problem. [=of not coming up with new ideas to deal with the problem]

cookie sheet *noun, pl* ~ **sheets** [*count*] *chiefly US* : BAKING SHEET

[1]cooking *noun* [*noncount*]
1 : the act of preparing and cooking food ▪ I do most of the *cooking* in our house.
2 : food that is cooked ▪ Don't you like my *cooking*? ▪ a spice

used in Indian *cooking* [=*cuisine*] ▪ delicious ***home cooking*** [=food cooked at home]

[2]cooking *adj, always used before a noun* : suitable for or used in cooking : involving or having to do with cooking ▪ *Cooking* time is about 20 minutes. ▪ *cooking* techniques/methods ▪ *cooking* oil ▪ I've been taking *cooking* classes.

cook–off /ˈkʊkˌɑːf/ *noun, pl* **-offs** [*count*] *US* : a competition in cooking

cook•out /ˈkʊkˌaʊt/ *noun, pl* **-outs** [*count*] *US* : a meal or party at which food is cooked and served outdoors ▪ a backyard *cookout*

cook•stove /ˈkʊkˌstoʊv/ *noun, pl* **-stoves** [*count*] *US* : a usually old-fashioned stove that burns wood and can be used for cooking; *also* : a small stove that is used to cook food outdoors

cook•top /ˈkʊkˌtɑːp/ *noun, pl* **-tops** [*count*] *US* : a flat piece of equipment for cooking that is built into a kitchen countertop and that usually has four devices (called burners) that become hot when turned on — compare STOVETOP

cook•ware /ˈkʊkˌweɚ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the pots, pans, etc., that are used in cooking ▪ a set of *cookware* ▪ stainless steel *cookware*

[1]cool /ˈkuːl/ *adj* **cool•er; cool•est**

1 [*or more* ~; *most* ~] : somewhat cold : not warm or hot ▪ a *cool* breeze ▪ The weather is *cool* today. ▪ The surface is *cool* to the touch. ▪ The plant grows best in *cool* climates. ▪ I'm feeling a little *cool*. ▪ a *cool* refreshing drink ▪ It's *cooler* [=less warm or hot] in the shade. ▪ This is the *coolest* [=least warm or hot] summer on record.

2 : made of a light, thin material that helps you stay cool ▪ We changed into some *cooler* clothes.

3 [*or more* ~; *most* ~] : able to think and act in a calm way : not affected by strong feelings ▪ It is important to ***keep a cool head*** in a crisis. = It is important to ***keep/stay cool*** in a crisis. [=it is important to remain calm in a crisis] ▪ She remained ***calm, cool, and collected***. ▪ He is a ***cool customer***. [=he is someone who remains calm and is not easily upset] ✧ If you are ***(as) cool as a cucumber***, you are very calm and able to think clearly often in a difficult situation. ▪ Even in the emergency, she remained *as cool as a cucumber*. ▪ The reporter was *cool as a cucumber* despite the confusion all around her.

4 [*or more* ~; *most* ~] : not friendly ▪ a *cool* reply ▪ He replied with a *cool* "I don't think so." ▪ She was always *cool* toward strangers. ▪ We were surprised by the *cool* reception we got.

5 [*or more* ~; *most* ~] *informal* **a** : very fashionable, stylish, or appealing in a way that is generally approved of especially by young people ▪ *cool* sunglasses ▪ The car has a *cool* new look. ▪ You look *cool* in those jeans. ▪ a magazine article about the *coolest* places to live/work — often used to show approval in a general way ▪ Your brother is so *cool*. ▪ That was a really *cool* [=*good, excellent*] movie. ▪ "I got a job as a lifeguard this summer." "*Cool*." **b** — used to suggest acceptance, agreement, or understanding ▪ "I'm sorry I'm late." "It's/That's *cool* [=*okay, all right*]—don't worry about it." ▪ "Is getting together Friday *cool* with you?" "Yeah, I'm *cool* with that." ▪ I thought she'd be mad, but she was *cool* about it.

6 *of a color* : suggesting cool things ▪ Blue and green are *cool* colors, but red and orange are warm colors.

7 *informal* — used for emphasis in referring to a large amount of money ▪ He's worth a *cool* million.

– cool•ish /ˈkuːlɪʃ/ *adj* ▪ a *coolish* day ▪ *coolish* colors ▪ He was a little *coolish* towards us. **– cool•ly** *adv* ▪ "Is that so?," she asked *coolly*. ▪ My idea was received *coolly*. **– cool•ness** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the *coolness* of the mountain air ▪ I was surprised by his *coolness* towards us. ▪ He always displays *coolness* under pressure.

[2]cool *verb* **cools; cooled; cool•ing**

1 a [+ *obj*] : to make (someone or something) cool ▪ The fan *cools* the engine. ▪ the *cooling* effect of the breeze ▪ the car's *cooling* system — often + *off* or *down* ▪ A swim *cooled* us *off/down* a little. ▪ The rain should help to *cool* things *off/down*. **b** [*no obj*] : to become cool : to lose heat or warmth ▪ Allow the cake to *cool* before slicing. ▪ the *cooling* of the ocean waters — often + *off* or *down* ▪ We went for a swim to *cool off/down*. ▪ The weather has *cooled off/down* a little.

2 a [*no obj*] : to become less strong or intense especially in emotion ▪ I took a break from the discussion to allow my anger to *cool*. ▪ His interest in her has *cooled* somewhat. — often + *off* or *down* ▪ You need to *cool off/down* before I talk to you. ▪ Their relationship has *cooled off/down* a bit. **b** [+ *obj*] : to make (an emotion) less strong or intense ▪ He couldn't *cool* [=*calm*] his anger. — often + *off* or *down* ▪ You need to *cool off/down* your anger.

cool it *informal* : to stop being excited, angry, noisy, etc. ▪ They were being too noisy, so he told them to *cool it*.

cool your heels *informal* : to wait for someone or something : to take a break from doing something or going someplace ▪ Passengers had no choice but to *cool their heels* when their flight was delayed yet again.

[3]cool *noun*

keep your cool *also chiefly US* ***maintain your cool*** *informal* : to remain calm ▪ He *kept/maintained his cool* [=he didn't get angry or upset] even though it was clear that he was being unfairly treated.

lose your cool *also US* ***blow your cool*** *informal* : to suddenly become very angry ▪ She rarely *loses her cool*. [=she controls her feelings well] ▪ He *lost his cool* and yelled at me. ▪ After listening patiently, he finally *blew his cool*.

the cool : a cool time or place — usually + *of* ▪ It was good to be outdoors in *the cool of* the evening/night. ▪ We relaxed in *the cool of* an air-conditioned room.

[4]cool *adv, informal* : in a calm manner : in a way that does not seem unusual or excited ▪ Here comes Mom. ***Act cool*** and she won't suspect a thing. ▪ She didn't want to seem too eager, so she tried to ***play it cool***. [=to pretend to be calm even though she wasn't feeling calm]

cool•ant /ˈkuːlənt/ *noun, pl* **-ants** [*count, noncount*] : a liquid that is used to cool an engine or machine

cool•er /ˈkuːlɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

1 : a container for keeping food or drinks cool ▪ The sodas are in the *cooler*. — called also (*Brit*) *cool bag*, (*Brit*) *cool box*

2 *US* : a cold drink that usually contains alcohol ▪ a wine *cooler*

3 ***the cooler*** *informal + somewhat old-fashioned* : a prison or jail ▪ They threw him in *the cooler*. [=(more commonly) *the slammer*]

cool•head•ed /ˈkuːlˌhɛdəd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not easily excited : able to think and act in a calm way ▪ a *cool-headed* leader

coo•lie /ˈkuːli/ *noun, pl* **-lies** [*count*] *offensive + old-fashioned* : an unskilled Asian worker who is paid low wages

cooling–off period *noun, pl* ~ **-ods** [*count*] : a period of time that must pass before you can do something or before an agreement becomes final ▪ The law requires a *cooling-off period* between the time a gun is purchased and when it may be possessed. ▪ The workers have agreed to a 30-day *cooling-off period* before they strike. ▪ Once you join the pension plan, you have a 14-day *cooling-off period* within which to change your mind.

coon /ˈkuːn/ *noun, pl* **coons** [*count*] *US, informal* : RACCOON

in a coon's age see [1]AGE

coon•skin /ˈkuːnˌskɪn/ *noun, pl* **-skins** [*count, noncount*] : the skin and fur of a raccoon — often used before another noun ▪ a *coonskin* cap/coat

[1]coop /ˈkuːp/ *noun, pl* **coops** [*count*] : a cage or small building in which chickens or other small animals are kept ▪ a chicken *coop*

fly the coop see [1]FLY

[2]coop *verb* **coops; cooped; coop•ing**

coop up [*phrasal verb*] ***coop up (someone or something)*** *or* ***coop (someone or something) up*** : to keep (a person or animal) inside a building or in a small space especially for a long period of time — usually used as *(be) cooped up* ▪ The children were cranky after *being cooped up* in the house all day. ▪ The dog *is cooped up* in a cage.

co–op /ˈkoʊˌɑːp/ *noun, pl* **-ops** [*count*] : a business or organization that is owned and operated by the people who work there or the people who use its services : COOPERATIVE ▪ a farmers' *co-op*

coo•per /ˈkuːpɚ/ *noun, pl* **-pers** [*count*] : a person who makes or repairs wooden casks or barrels

co•op•er•ate /koʊˈɑːpəˌreɪt/ *verb* **-ates; -at•ed; -at•ing** [*no obj*]

1 : to work together : to work with another person or group to do something ▪ It will be much easier if everyone *cooperates*. ▪ Several organizations *cooperated* in the relief efforts. ▪ The country agreed to *cooperate* with the other nations on the trade agreement.

2 a : to be helpful by doing what someone asks or tells you to do ▪ The mother asked the child to put on his pajamas, but the child refused to *cooperate*. ▪ Witnesses were willing/un-

willing to *cooperate*. — often + *with* ▪ They said they would *cooperate* fully *with* the investigation. ▪ He agreed/refused to *cooperate with* the police. **b** : to act in a way that makes something possible or likely : to produce the right conditions for something to happen ▪ We can barbecue on Sunday if the weather *cooperates*. [=if the weather is good enough]

co•op•er•a•tion /koʊˌɑːpəˈreɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*]
1 : a situation in which people work together to do something ▪ The report cited a lack of *cooperation* between state and local officials. ▪ The fair was organized in *cooperation* with local businesses. = The fair was organized with the *cooperation* of local businesses.
2 : the actions of someone who is being helpful by doing what is wanted or asked for ▪ Thank you for your *cooperation*. ▪ We are asking for your full *cooperation*.

[1]co•op•er•a•tive /koʊˈɑːprətɪv/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : willing to be helpful by doing what someone wants or asks for ▪ *cooperative* children ▪ The witness was very *cooperative*. — opposite UNCOOPERATIVE
2 : involving two or more people or groups working together to do something ▪ a *cooperative* [=*joint, combined*] effort/venture
3 : relating to a business or organization that is owned and operated by the people who work there or the people who use its services ▪ a *cooperative* store
– **co•op•er•a•tive•ly** *adv* ▪ The group acted *cooperatively*. ▪ a *cooperatively* owned store – **co•op•er•a•tive•ness** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ He demonstrated his *cooperativeness* on many occasions.

[2]cooperative *noun, pl* **-tives** [*count*] : a business or organization that is owned and operated by the people who work there or the people who use its services ▪ the local farmers' *cooperative*

co–opt /koʊˈɑːpt/ *verb* **-opts**; **-opt•ed**; **-opt•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal*
1 : to cause or force (someone or something) to become part of your group, movement, etc. ▪ The national organization has *co-opted* many formerly independent local groups.
2 : to use or take control of (something) for your own purposes ▪ Advertisers *co-opted* the team's slogan. ▪ The candidate has been accused of *co-opting* his opponent's message to serve his own election campaign.

[1]co•or•di•nate /koʊˈoɚdəˌneɪt/ *verb* **-nates**; **-nat•ed**; **-nating**
1 a : to make arrangements so that two or more people or groups of people can work together properly and well [+ *obj*] She'll be *coordinating* the relief effort. [*no obj*] You'll have to *coordinate* with the sales department. **b** [*no obj*] : to act or work together properly and well ▪ National and international relief efforts must *coordinate* if the operation is to be successful.
2 [+ *obj*] : to cause (two or more things) to be the same or to go together well : to cause (two or more things) to not conflict with or contradict each other ▪ We need to *coordinate* our schedules. ▪ Dancers need to *coordinate* their moves.
3 [+ *obj*] : to move (different parts of your body) together well or easily ▪ Since his illness, he has had trouble *coordinating* his arms and legs.
4 : to look good with another color, pattern, style, etc. [*no obj*] This color *coordinates* with your outfit. ▪ The shirt and pants are available in three *coordinating* styles/colors. ▪ *coordinating* patterns [+ *obj*] We *coordinated* the curtains and the fabric of the furniture.
– **coordinated** *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ a *coordinated* effort/attack ▪ I would take dance lessons, but I am not very *coordinated*. ▪ A more *coordinated* approach will improve productivity. — often used in combination ▪ a color-*coordinated* wardrobe ▪ a well-*coordinated* athlete

[2]co•or•di•nate /koʊˈoɚdənət/ *noun, pl* **-nates**
1 [*count*] *technical* : one of a set of numbers that is used to locate a point on a map, graph, etc. ▪ latitude and longitude *coordinates* ▪ We calculated its exact *coordinates*.
2 *coordinates* [*plural*] : articles of clothing that are made to be worn together ▪ *coordinates* in basic colors

coordinate clause *noun, pl* ~ **clauses** [*count*] *grammar* : one of two or more clauses in a sentence that are of equal importance and usually joined by *and, or*, or *but* — compare MAIN CLAUSE, SUBORDINATE CLAUSE

coordinating conjunction *noun, pl* ~ **-tions** [*count*] *grammar* : a conjunction (such as *and, or*, or *but*) that joins together words, phrases, or clauses of equal importance

co•or•di•na•tion /koʊˈoɚdəˈneɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*]
1 : the process of organizing people or groups so that they work together properly and well ▪ The new agency will oversee the *coordination* of the various departments. ▪ The manager is in charge of project *coordination*. ▪ There needs to be better *coordination* between departments. ▪ The FBI worked ***in coordination with*** local police. [=the FBI worked with local police]
2 : the process of causing things to be the same or to go together well ▪ the *coordination* of our schedules ▪ better *coordination* of the dancers' moves
3 : the ability to move different parts of your body together well or easily ▪ Playing sports improves strength and *coordination*. ▪ The illness causes a loss of *coordination*. ▪ poor *coordination*

co•or•di•na•tor /koʊˈoɚdəˌneɪtɚ/ *noun, pl* **-tors** [*count*] : a person who organizes people or groups so that they work together properly and well ▪ She is the program/project *coordinator*.

coot /ˈkuːt/ *noun, pl* **coots** [*count*]
1 : a type of black and gray bird that lives on or near the water
2 *US, informal* : a strange and usually old man ▪ Don't mind him—he's just a crazy old *coot*.

coo•tie /ˈkuːti/ *noun, pl* **-ties** [*count*] *US, informal* : a type of small insect that lives in people's hair ✧ *Cootie* is used especially by children. ▪ Don't touch him or you'll get *cooties*!

co–owner *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : someone who owns something together with another person

[1]cop /ˈkɑːp/ *noun, pl* **cops** [*count*] *informal* : POLICE OFFICER ▪ He threatened to call the *cops* on us. — see also COPS AND ROBBERS, TRAFFIC COP
it's a fair cop *Brit, informal* — used to admit that you did something wrong and were caught fairly ▪ I'm annoyed about the speeding ticket, but *it's a fair cop*.
not much cop *Brit, informal* : not very good ▪ She's *not much cop* as an actress. ▪ I'm *not much cop* at sports.

[2]cop *verb* **cops**; **copped**; **cop•ping** [+ *obj*]
1 *US, informal* : to get (something desirable) ▪ I managed to *cop* an invitation. ▪ She *copped* [=*took*] first prize in the competition.
2 *US, informal* : to steal or take (something) from someone ▪ Somebody *copped* my watch. ▪ He *copped* the idea from me.
3 *chiefly Brit, informal* : to receive (something undesirable) ▪ They expected me to *cop* all the blame! ▪ He *copped* the full force of the blow.
cop a feel *US slang* : to touch someone in an unwanted and unexpected sexual way ▪ Some guy on the bus tried to *cop a feel*! [=some guy on the bus tried to grope me]
cop an attitude *US, informal* : to show that you believe you are more important or better than other people by behaving in a rude or unpleasant way ▪ The students tried to *cop an attitude* with the new teacher.
cop a plea *US, informal* : to admit to doing a less serious crime than the one you are accused of : to agree to a plea bargain ▪ Her lawyers convinced her to *cop a plea*.
cop hold of *Brit, informal* : to grab or take hold of (something) ▪ *Cop hold of* this part while I tighten the screw.
cop it *Brit, informal* : to be punished for doing something wrong ▪ When dad gets home, you're going to *cop it*! [=(*US*) *get it*]
cop off [*phrasal verb*] *Brit slang* : to have sexual intercourse *with* someone ▪ He *copped off with* one of the girls at the party.
cop out [*phrasal verb*] *informal* **1** : to not do something that you are expected to do ▪ She said she would come, but then she *copped out* at the last minute. ▪ You'd better not *cop out* on me! **2** : to fail to deal with a problem or situation ▪ He accused the mayor of *copping out* on the issue of homelessness. — see also COP-OUT
cop to [*phrasal verb*] ***cop to (something)*** *US slang* : to admit to doing (something) ▪ He agreed to *cop to* a misdemeanor.

co–pay /ˈkoʊˈpeɪ/ *noun, pl* **-pays** [*count*] : CO-PAYMENT

co–pay•ment /ˈkoʊˌpeɪmənt/ *noun, pl* **-ments** [*count*] : an amount of money that a person with health insurance is required to pay at the time of each visit to a doctor or when purchasing medicine

[1]cope /ˈkoʊp/ *verb* **copes**; **coped**; **cop•ing** [*no obj*] : to deal with problems and difficult situations and try to come up with solutions ▪ The trial has been difficult, but I'm learning to *cope*. — often + *with* ▪ You'll just have to *cope with* the situation. ▪ The book is about *coping with* stress. ▪ He says he can no longer *cope with* the demands of the job.

– **coping** *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ *coping* skills/strategies [=skills/strategies that help a person cope]

²cope *noun, pl* **copes** [*count*] : a long, loose piece of clothing that is worn by a priest on special occasions

copi•er /ˈkɑːpijɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a machine that makes paper copies of printed pages, pictures, etc. — called also *copy machine, photocopier, photocopy machine*; see picture at OFFICE

co•pi•lot /ˈkoʊˌpaɪlət/ *noun, pl* **-lots** [*count*] : a pilot who helps the main pilot operate an airplane, helicopter, etc.

cop•ing /ˈkoʊpɪŋ/ *noun, pl* **-ings** [*count, noncount*] *architecture* : the top layer of a brick or stone wall that is usually higher on one end than the other to allow rain to be carried off easily

co•pi•ous /ˈkoʊpijəs/ *adj, always used before a noun* : very large in amount or number ▪ The storm produced a *copious* amount of rain. ▪ She sat in the front row and took *copious* notes during the lecture.

– **co•pi•ous•ly** *adv* ▪ a *copiously* illustrated book ▪ He wrote/drank *copiously*.

cop–out /ˈkɑːpˌaʊt/ *noun, pl* **-outs** [*count*] *informal + disapproving*

1 : an excuse for not doing something ▪ He played poorly and used his recent illness as a *cop-out*. ▪ She says she doesn't have the time, but that's just a *cop-out*. [=she really does have the time]

2 : something that avoids dealing with a problem in an appropriate way ▪ The ending of the book is a disappointing *cop-out*. — see also *cop out* at ²COP

¹cop•per /ˈkɑːpɚ/ *noun, pl* **-pers**

1 [*noncount*] : a reddish-brown metal that allows heat and electricity to pass through it easily ▪ The wires are (made of) *copper*. — often used before another noun ▪ *copper* wire/pipes ▪ a *copper* mine

2 [*noncount*] : a reddish-brown color — usually used before another noun ▪ *copper* hair ▪ *copper* skin — see color picture on page C2

3 [*count*] *chiefly Brit, informal* : a copper or bronze coin that has little value ▪ She gave the child a few *coppers*.

– compare ²COPPER

– **cop•pery** /ˈkɑːpəri/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] ▪ *coppery* hair ▪ a *coppery* red

²copper *noun, pl* **-pers** [*count*] *chiefly Brit, informal* : POLICE OFFICER — compare ¹COPPER

copper–bottomed *adj* [*more ~; most ~*]

1 : having a copper coating on the bottom ▪ a *copper-bottomed* pan

2 *Brit, informal* : deserving to be trusted ▪ a *copper-bottomed* guarantee : certain to succeed ▪ The film is a *copper-bottomed* [=*surefire*] hit.

cop•per•head /ˈkɑːpɚˌhɛd/ *noun, pl* **-heads** [*count*] : a poisonous reddish-brown snake of the eastern and central U.S.

cop•pice /ˈkɑːpəs/ *noun, pl* **-pic•es** [*count*] : a group of small trees growing very close together

cops and robbers *noun* [*noncount*] : a children's game in which the players imitate the way police chase and shoot at criminals in movies, on television, etc.

copse /ˈkɑːps/ *noun, pl* **copses** [*count*] : COPPICE

cop shop *noun, pl* **~ shops** [*count*] *Brit slang* : POLICE STATION

cop•ter /ˈkɑːptɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ters** [*count*] *chiefly US, informal* : HELICOPTER

cop•u•la /ˈkɑːpjələ/ *noun, pl* **-las** [*count*] *grammar* : LINKING VERB

cop•u•late /ˈkɑːpjəˌleɪt/ *verb* **-lates**; **-lat•ed**; **-lat•ing** [*no obj*] *formal* : to have sexual intercourse ▪ Some animals have complex mating rituals before they *copulate*.

– **cop•u•la•tion** /ˌkɑːpjəˈleɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*]

¹copy /ˈkɑːpi/ *noun, pl* **cop•ies**

1 [*count*] : something that is or looks exactly or almost exactly like something else : a version of something that is identical or almost identical to the original ▪ The paintings at the museum are originals, not *copies*. [=*reproductions*] — often + *of* ▪ Can you make me a *copy of* the letter/receipt? ▪ Be sure to make backup *copies of* any important files. ▪ I need 10 *copies* [=*photocopies*] *of* this page. ▪ It is a cheap *copy* [=*imitation, knockoff*] *of* a designer dress. ▪ It's an exact *copy* [=*replica, reproduction*] *of* a medieval sword. — see also CARBON COPY, HARD COPY

2 [*count*] : one of the many books, magazines, albums, DVDs, etc., that are exactly the same and are produced to be sold or given to the public ▪ The novel/album has sold more than a million *copies*. — often + *of* ▪ Here's a free *copy of* our catalog/brochure.

3 [*noncount*] : written information that is to be published in a newspaper, magazine, etc. ▪ She got a job writing advertising *copy*. ▪ All *copy* must be submitted by 5 p.m. ▪ Political scandals make ***good copy***. [=interesting news stories]

²copy *verb* **copies**; **cop•ied**; **copy•ing**

1 : to make a version of (something) that is exactly or almost exactly like the original : to make a copy or duplicate of (something) [+ *obj*] She *copied* the design on a piece of paper. ▪ *Copy* the file to your hard drive. ▪ Would you *copy* [=*photocopy*] these pages for me? ▪ The program allows you to ***copy and paste*** text. [=to copy text and insert it somewhere else in the document] [*no obj*] The page did not *copy* [=*photocopy*] well. ▪ The bills are designed to prevent *copying* by counterfeiters.

2 a : to write (something) down exactly as it appears somewhere else [+ *obj*] We caught him *copying* the answers out of the book. [*no obj*] We caught him *copying* out of the book.

b [+ *obj*] : to use (someone else's words or ideas) as your own ▪ The speech was *copied* word for word.

3 [+ *obj*] **a** : to do the same thing as (someone) ▪ She's always *copying* [=*imitating*] her older sister. **b** : to make or do something the same way as (something else) ▪ His music was *copied* widely. ▪ Their competitors soon *copied* the idea.

copy down/out [*phrasal verb*] ***copy (something) down/out*** *or* ***copy down/out (something)*** : to write down (words that you are hearing or reading) ▪ Are you *copying* all of this *down*? ▪ I *copied out* the equations on a piece of paper.

copy•cat /ˈkɑːpiˌkæt/ *noun, pl* **-cats** [*count*]

1 *informal* : a person who does the same thing as someone else : a person who adopts the behavior, style, etc., of someone else ▪ She called me a *copycat* for wearing the same dress.

2 : something that is very similar to another thing ▪ The product has inspired a lot of *copycats*. [=*imitations*] — often used before another noun ▪ a *copycat* crime ▪ *copycat* drugs

copy editor *noun, pl* **~ -tors** [*count*] *US* : a person whose job is to prepare a book, newspaper, etc., for printing by making sure the words are correct — called also (*Brit*) *sub-editor*

– **copy•ed•it** /ˈkɑːpiˌɛdət/ *verb* **-its**; **-it•ed**; **-it•ing** [+ *obj*] ▪ He *copyedits* the dictionary.

copy•ist /ˈkɑːpiɪst/ *noun, pl* **-ists** [*count*]

1 : someone who made copies of documents or maps by hand before printing became common

2 : someone who copies the style or design of something (such as a work of art or piece of clothing)

copy machine *or* **copying machine** *noun, pl* **~ -chines** [*count*] : COPIER

¹copy•right /ˈkɑːpiˌraɪt/ *noun, pl* **-rights** : the legal right to be the only one to reproduce, publish, and sell a book, musical recording, etc., for a certain period of time [*count*] His family still holds the *copyright* to his songs. ▪ laws that protect *copyrights* [*noncount*] The book is under *copyright*.

²copyright *verb* **-rights**; **-right•ed**; **-right•ing** [+ *obj*] : to get a copyright for a book, musical recording, etc., for a certain period of time ▪ He has *copyrighted* all of his plays. ▪ These are *copyrighted* materials.

³copyright *adj, always used before a noun*

1 : of or relating to a copyright ▪ *copyright* law/infringement ▪ *copyright* protection ▪ The *copyright* date is 2005.

2 : not allowed to be copied without permission from the author, composer, etc. ▪ *copyright* material

copy•writ•er /ˈkɑːpiˌraɪtɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : someone whose job is to write the words for advertisements

coq au vin /ˌkoʊkoʊˈvæn/ *noun* [*noncount*] : chicken that is cooked in red wine

co•que•try /ˈkoʊkətri, *Brit* ˈkɒkətri/ *noun* [*noncount*] *literary* : the behavior of a coquette ▪ Her behavior was mistaken for *coquetry*. [=(more commonly) *flirtation*]

co•quette /koʊˈkɛt/ *noun, pl* **-quettes** [*count*] *literary + formal* : a woman who likes to win the attention or admiration of men but does not have serious feelings for them : FLIRT ▪ She was a bit of a *coquette*.

– **co•quett•ish** /koʊˈkɛtɪʃ/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] ▪ a *coquettish* grin/smile ▪ a *coquettish* young woman – **co•quett•ish•ly** *adv* ▪ She smiled *coquettishly* at him. – **co•quett•ish•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

cor•a•cle /ˈkorəkəl/ *noun, pl* **-acles** [*count*] : a very small

type of boat that has been used in parts of Great Britain since ancient times

cor•al /'korəl/ *noun* [*noncount*]
1 : a hard material formed on the bottom of the sea by the skeletons of small creatures ▪ brightly colored fishes swimming among the *coral*
2 : an orange pink color — see color picture on page C3
– **coral** *adj* ▪ *coral* deposits

coral reef *noun, pl* ~ **reefs** [*count*] : a long line of coral that lies in warm, shallow water

cor an•glais /ˌkorɑŋ'gleɪ/ *noun, pl* **cors an•glais** /ˌkoəzɑŋ'gleɪ/ [*count*] *Brit* : ENGLISH HORN

[1]cord /'koəd/ *noun, pl* **cords**
1 : a long, thin material that is usually thicker than a string but thinner than a rope [*count*] She wore the key on a *cord* around her neck. ▪ They used *cords* to tie the tent to the trees. [*noncount*] a piece of *cord* — see also BUNGEE CORD, RIP CORD
2 [*count*] : an electrical wire that is wrapped in a protective covering and used to connect a device to a power source ▪ a telephone *cord* ▪ a lamp *cord* ▪ a power *cord* — called also (*Brit*) *flex*; see also EXTENSION CORD
3 [*count*] : a part of the body that is like a string or rope ▪ a nerve *cord* — see also SPINAL CORD, UMBILICAL CORD, VOCAL CORDS
4 [*count*] *US* : an amount of wood that has been cut for burning in a fireplace, stove, etc. : a pile that contains 128 cubic feet of firewood ▪ a *cord* of wood — compare CORDWOOD
5 *cords* [*plural*] : pants made of corduroy ▪ a pair of black *cords* [=*corduroys*]

[2]cord *adj* : made of corduroy ▪ a *cord* jacket

cord•age /'koədɪʤ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : ropes or cords ▪ a company that produced *cordage* for ships

[1]cor•dial /'koəʤəl, *Brit* 'kɔ:diəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : politely pleasant and friendly ▪ We received a *cordial* greeting from our hostess at the party. ▪ The two nations have maintained *cordial* relations.
– **cor•di•al•i•ty** /ˌkoəʤi'æləti, *Brit* ˌkɔ:di'æləti/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ They greeted the ambassador with *cordiality*.
– **cor•dial•ly** *adv* ▪ You are *cordially* invited to attend the wedding of our daughter on May 14.

[2]cordial *noun, pl* **-dials** [*count, noncount*]
1 *US* : a sweet alcoholic drink : LIQUEUR
2 *Brit* : a drink of heavy fruit juice that is mixed with water

cord•less /'koədləs/ *adj* : powered by a battery rather than by electricity through a cord ▪ a *cordless* phone/drill

[1]cor•don /'koədn̩/ *noun, pl* **-dons** [*count*] : a line of people or objects that are placed around or in front of a person or place to keep people away ▪ A *cordon* of police kept protesters away from the building.

[2]cordon *verb* **-dons**; **-doned**; **-don•ing**
cordon off [*phrasal verb*] ***cordon off (something)*** *or* ***cordon (something) off*** : to prevent people from getting into (an area) by putting a line of people or objects around or in front of it ▪ Police *cordoned off* the street.

cor•don bleu /ˌkoəˌdɑ:n'blu:/ *adj* : having, showing, or requiring great skill at cooking ▪ a *cordon bleu* chef ▪ a *cordon bleu* meal

cor•du•roy /'koədəˌroɪ/ *noun*
1 [*noncount*] : a strong cotton cloth with straight raised lines on it ▪ a jacket made of *corduroy* — often used before another noun ▪ a *corduroy* skirt
2 *corduroys* [*plural*] : pants made of corduroy ▪ a pair of *corduroys* [=*cords*]

cord•wood /'koədˌwʊd/ *noun* [*noncount*] *US* : wood used for fires that is piled or sold in cords (sense 4)

[1]core /'koə/ *noun, pl* **cores** [*count*]
1 : the central part of a fruit (such as an apple) that contains the seeds ▪ an apple *core* — see color picture on page C5
2 : the central part of something ▪ the *core* of a golf ball ▪ The pads have a foam *core*. ▪ the engine *core* ▪ the *core* of the galaxy ▪ The Earth's *core* is very different from its crust. ▪ the urban *core* [=the central part of a city]
3 : the most important or basic part of something ▪ Lack of money is the *core* of the problem. ▪ The *core* of the government's plan is to provide loans for small businesses. ▪ voters who form the *core* of the party ▪ The economy is at the very *core* of this year's election. — see also HARD CORE
4 *technical* : a part that has been removed from a material for scientific study ▪ took a *core* sample of rock ▪ an ice *core* from the glacier
5 *technical* : the place in a nuclear reactor where the reaction takes place ▪ the reactor *core*
to the core : in a very complete or extreme way — used for emphasis ▪ He is patriotic *to the core*. [=he is extremely patriotic] ▪ Her family is English *to the core*. ▪ He's ***rotten to the core***. [=he's a very bad/dishonest person] ▪ They were ***shaken to the core***. [=extremely shaken/upset]

[2]core *adj, always used before a noun*
1 : most important or most basic ▪ The company's *core* business is lending money. ▪ Stealing would go against his *core* beliefs. [=his basic principles] ▪ the *core* responsibilities of the police force ▪ the *core* vocabulary of a language
2 : of or relating to the classes that all the students in a school are required to take or the skills that all students are required to learn ▪ the *core* curriculum ▪ *core* courses/subjects

[3]core *verb* **cores**; **cored**; **cor•ing** [+ *obj*] : to remove a core from (a fruit) ▪ *core* an apple
– **cor•er** *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] ▪ an apple *corer* [=a device that is used to remove the core from an apple]

co•ri•an•der /'koriˌændəɹ/ *noun* [*noncount*]
1 : a plant whose leaves and seeds are used in cooking
2 *chiefly Brit* : CILANTRO
3 : the dried seed of the coriander plant used as a flavoring — called also *coriander seed*

[1]cork /'koək/ *noun, pl* **corks**
1 [*noncount*] : a material that is made from the soft bark of a kind of oak tree ▪ a piece of *cork* ▪ a *cork* bulletin board ▪ shoes with *cork* heels
2 [*count*] : a piece of cork or another material (such as plastic) that is put in the end of bottle to close it ▪ the *cork* of a wine bottle ▪ She ***popped the cork*** on the champagne. [=she opened the bottle of champagne by removing the cork] ▪ After their championship victory, the team was ready to *pop the cork*. [=to begin celebrating by opening and drinking bottles of champagne]
put a cork in it *chiefly US, informal* — used as a rude way to tell someone to stop talking and especially to stop complaining ▪ Why don't you *put a cork in it*! [=*shut up*] I am sick of your whining!

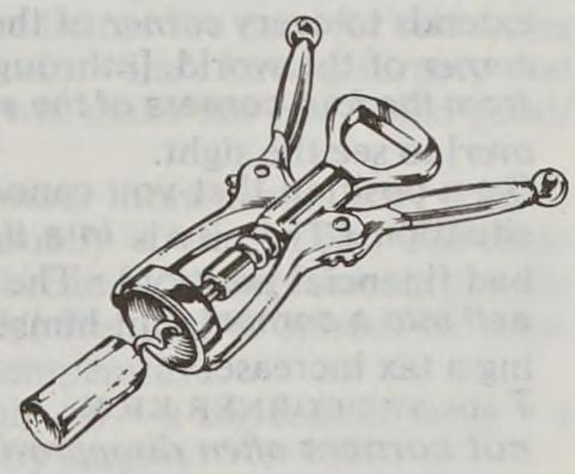
[2]cork *verb* **corks**; **corked**; **cork•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to close (something, such as a bottle) with a cork ▪ Please *cork* the wine. ▪ a *corked* bottle of wine — opposite UNCORK; see also CORKED
2 : to put cork inside (something, such as a baseball bat) ▪ a player who has been accused of illegally *corking* his bats ▪ a *corked* bat

corked /'koəkt/ *adj, of wine* : having an unpleasant taste because of a damaged or decayed cork ▪ *corked* wine

cork•er /'koəkəɹ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *informal + old-fashioned* : a very good or amusing person or thing ▪ Last week's episode was good, but this one is a real *corker*!

cork•ing /'koəkɪŋ/ *adj, informal + old-fashioned* : very good ▪ an absolutely *corking* idea
– **corking** *adv* ▪ a *corking* good story

cork•screw /'koəkˌskru:/ *noun, pl* **-screws** [*count*] : a tool that is used to pull corks from bottles


corkscrew

cor•mo•rant /'koəmərənt/ *noun, pl* **-rants** [*count*] : a type of dark-colored bird that has a long neck and that eats fish that it catches in the ocean

[1]corn /'koən/ *noun* [*noncount*]
1 *US* **a** : a tall plant that produces yellow seeds (called kernels) that are eaten as a vegetable, used to produce many food products, and used as food for animals ▪ driving past fields of *corn* — called also (*US*) *Indian corn, maize*; see color picture on page C4 **b** : the seeds of the corn plant eaten as a vegetable ▪ a dish of buttered *corn* ▪ a can of *corn* ▪ We ate ***corn on the cob***. [=kernels still attached to the cob/corncob] — called also (*Brit*) *sweetcorn*
2 *Brit, somewhat old-fashioned* : a plant (such as wheat or barley) that produces seeds which are used for food; *also* : the seeds of such a plant : GRAIN
3 *US, informal* : something (such as writing, music, or acting) that is old-fashioned and silly or sentimental : some-

thing that is corny ▪ The movie's humor is pure *corn*. [=is very corny]
– compare [2]CORN

[2]corn *noun, pl* **corns** [*count*] : a painful hard spot on the skin of the foot — compare [1]CORN

corn•ball /'koən,bɑ:l/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *US, informal* : old-fashioned and silly or sentimental : CORNY ▪ a *cornball* musical about farmers ▪ a *cornball* sense of humor

corn bread *noun, pl ~* **breads** [*count, noncount*] : a kind of bread or cake that is made with cornmeal

corn chip *noun, pl ~* **chips** [*count*] : a small, flat piece of fried cornmeal that is eaten cold as a snack

corn•cob /'koən,kɑ:b/ *noun, pl* **-cobs** [*count*] : the long, hard, center part of corn (sense 1) : the part of corn that the kernels grow on

corn dog *noun, pl ~* **dogs** [*count*] *US* : a hot dog covered with a mixture of cornmeal that is fried and served on a stick

cor•nea /'koənijə/ *noun, pl* **-neas** [*count*] *technical* : the clear outer covering of the eyeball
– **cor•ne•al** /'koənijəl/ *adj*

corned beef *noun* [*noncount*] : beef that has been preserved in salt water ▪ a slice of *corned beef* ▪ a *corned beef* sandwich

[1]cor•ner /'koənə/ *noun, pl* **-ners** [*count*]
1 : the point or area where two lines, edges, or sides of something meet ▪ the *corner* of a box/table/tablecloth ▪ A post marks the *corner* of the property. ▪ Write your name in the upper right-hand *corner* of the page. ▪ He caught the ball in the *corner* of the end zone. ▪ the northeast *corner* of the state ▪ We sat at a table in a *corner* of the room.
2 a : the place where two streets or roads meet ▪ a street *corner* ▪ The hotel is at the *corner* of Fifth Avenue and 59th Street. ▪ A group of teenagers were hanging around on the *corner*. ▪ He went to the grocery store around/round the *corner* from the bank. **b** : a curve in a road ▪ She knew there was a gas station just around the *corner*. [=after the curve] ▪ The car took the *corner* [=drove around the curve in the road] too fast and went off the road. — see also (JUST) AROUND THE CORNER (below), TURN THE CORNER (below)
3 : the side of your mouth or eye ▪ He said something out of the *corner* of his mouth to the person standing next to him. ▪ There was a tear in the *corner* of her eye. ▪ I saw something ***out of the corner of my eye***. [=I saw something to the side of where I was looking]
4 : one of four parts of a boxing ring where the sides meet ▪ The boxers returned to their *corners* when the round ended. — often used figuratively to describe people, groups, etc., that are opposing or fighting each other ▪ In one *corner* you have the music industry, and in the other, those who want music but don't want to pay for it. ✧ Someone who gives you help and support is ***in your corner***. ▪ I am going to need you *in my corner* when I go to court.
5 a : a place that is private or secret or that few people know about or visit ▪ They live in a quiet *corner* of the town. — often used figuratively ▪ a memory that lies in some dark *corner* of his mind **b** : a place that is far away ▪ His influence extends to every *corner* of the state. ▪ She is famous in every *corner* of the world. [=throughout the world] ▪ People came ***from the four corners of the earth*** [=*from everywhere; from all over*] to see the sight.
6 : a position that you cannot easily get out of : a difficult situation ▪ The city is ***in a tight corner*** financially. [=is in a bad financial position] ▪ The candidate ***backed/painted himself into a corner*** [=put himself in a bad position] by proposing a tax increase.
7 *soccer* : CORNER KICK
cut corners *often disapproving* : to save time or money by doing less than you usually do or than you should do ▪ We don't have enough money to pay for everything, so we'll have to *cut corners* somewhere. ▪ You should never *cut corners* on safety.
have/get a corner on : to have or get enough of (something) to be able to control its price ▪ He *has a corner on* the silver market. — often used figuratively ▪ He acts like he *has a corner on* new ideas. [=like he is the only person who has new ideas]
(just) around the corner : coming or happening very soon ▪ The politicians say that a stronger economy is *just around the corner*. [=that the economy will become stronger very soon] ▪ Summer vacation is *around the corner*.
turn the corner : to get past the most difficult area or period in something and begin to improve ▪ The company claims it has *turned the corner* and will be profitable soon.

[2]corner *adj, always used before a noun* : located at a corner ▪ a *corner* office ▪ We ate in a *corner* booth at the restaurant. ▪ a *corner* shop/store

[3]corner *verb* **-ners; -nered; -ner•ing**
1 [+ *obj*] **a** : to force (a person or animal) into a place or position from which escape is very difficult or impossible ▪ Police *cornered* the suspect in a backyard. ▪ A *cornered* animal can be dangerous. **b** : to force (someone who wants to avoid you or get away from you) to stop and talk with you ▪ He *cornered* the actress and demanded her autograph. ▪ The interviewer *cornered* the politician with some probing questions.
2 [+ *obj*] : to get control of a particular type of product that is being bought and sold — used in the phrase ***corner the market*** ▪ They have *cornered the market* in wheat. = They have *cornered the* wheat *market*. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ He acts as if he's *cornered the market* on new ideas.
3 [*no obj*] *of a vehicle* : to turn a corner ▪ This car *corners* well.

corner kick *noun, pl ~* **kicks** [*count*] *soccer* : a free kick from the corner of the field near the opponent's goal

cor•ner•stone /'koənə,stoun/ *noun, pl* **-stones** [*count*]
1 : a stone that forms part of a corner in the outside wall of a building and that often shows the date when the building was built ▪ Officials held a ceremony to lay the *cornerstone* for a new library.
2 : something of basic importance ▪ Trust is the *cornerstone* of their relationship.

cor•net /koə'nɛt, *Brit* 'kɔ:nɪt/ *noun, pl* **-nets** [*count*]
1 : a brass musical instrument that is similar to a trumpet but smaller
2 *Brit, old-fashioned* : an ice-cream cone

corn–fed /'koən,fɛd/ *adj* : fed with grain ▪ *corn-fed* pigs — sometimes used figuratively in U.S. English ▪ a big, *corn-fed* farm boy ▪ *corn-fed* [=*corny*] humor

corn•field /'koən,fi:ld/ *noun, pl* **-fields** [*count*] : a field in which corn is grown

corn•flakes /'koən,fleɪks/ *noun* [*plural*] : toasted flakes made from kernels of corn (sense 1) and used as a breakfast cereal

corn flour *noun* [*noncount*] *Brit* : CORNSTARCH

corn•flow•er /'koən,flawə/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a wild plant that usually has blue flowers

cor•nice /'koənəs/ *noun, pl* **-nic•es** [*count*]
1 : the decorative top edge of a building or column
2 : a decorative strip of wood or some other material used at the top of the walls in a room

Cor•nish /'koənɪʃ/ *adj* : of or relating to Cornwall or the people of Cornwall ▪ the *Cornish* coast ▪ *Cornish* miners ▪ *Cornish* culture

Cornish pasty *noun, pl ~* **-ties** [*count*] : a small pie that is filled with meat and vegetables

corn•meal /'koən,mi:l/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a coarse flour made from crushed corn (sense 1)

corn oil *noun* [*noncount*] : a type of oil made from corn (sense 1) and used in foods and soap

corn•pone /-'poun/ *adj, US, informal* : of, relating to, or appealing to people who live on farms away from big cities ▪ *cornpone* charm ▪ *cornpone* humor

corn•rows /'koən,rouz/ *noun* [*plural*] : a hair style in which hair is twisted together in tight rows that lie close to the skin — see picture at HAIR

corn•stalk /'koən,stɑ:k/ *noun, pl* **-stalks** [*count*] : the long stem of a corn plant (sense 1)

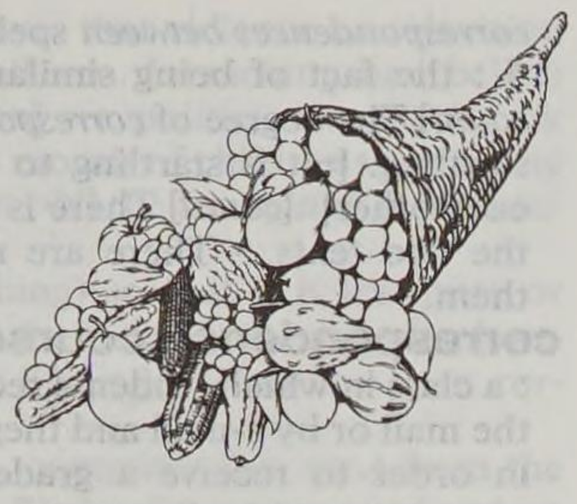
corn•starch /'koən,stɑəʧ/ *noun* [*noncount*] *US* : a fine powder made from corn (sense 1) that is used in cooking especially to make liquids thicker ▪ I used some *cornstarch* to thicken the gravy. — called also (*Brit*) *corn flour*

corn syrup *noun* [*noncount*] : a sweet, thick liquid made from corn (sense 1)

cor•nu•co•pia /,koənə'koupijə, ,koənjə'koupijə/ *noun, pl* **-pi•as**
1 [*count*] : a container that is shaped like a horn and is full of fruits and flowers
2 [*singular*] : a great amount or source of something ▪ The market is/offers a *cornucopia* of fruits and vegetables. ▪ The book includes a *cornucopia* of wonderful stories.

corny /'koəni/ *adj* **corn•i•er; -est** *informal + usually disapproving* : old-fashioned and silly or sentimental ▪ a *corny* joke ▪ *corny* greeting cards

cor•ol•lary /ˈkorəˌleri, *Brit* kəˈrɒləri/ *noun, pl* **-lar•ies** [*count*] *formal* : something that naturally follows or results from another thing ▪ A *corollary* [=*result, by-product*] of increased poverty is more crime.
– **corollary** *adj* ▪ a *corollary* assumption



cornucopia

co•ro•na /kəˈroʊnə/ *noun, pl* **-nas** [*count*] *technical* : a bright circle seen around the sun or the moon

[1]cor•o•nary /ˈkorəˌneri, *Brit* ˈkɒrənri/ *adj* : of or relating to the heart and especially to the vessels that supply blood to the heart ▪ a *coronary* artery ▪ *coronary* surgery ▪ *coronary* heart disease ▪ ***coronary thrombosis*** [=a dangerous condition in which an artery to the heart is blocked by a blood clot]

[2]coronary *noun, pl* **-nar•ies** [*count*] *informal* : HEART ATTACK ▪ I almost had a *coronary* when I heard the news.

cor•o•na•tion /ˌkorəˈneɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count*] : a ceremony in which a crown is placed on the head of a new king or queen ▪ the *coronation* of Queen Elizabeth

cor•o•ner /ˈkorənɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ners** [*count*] : a public official whose job is to find out the cause of death when people die in ways that are violent, sudden, etc. ▪ The *coroner* examined the body but found no evidence of foul play.

cor•o•net /ˌkorəˈnɛt, *Brit* ˈkɒrənɪt/ *noun, pl* **-nets** [*count*] : a small crown

Corp. *abbr* corporation ▪ Chrysler *Corp.*

corpora *plural of* CORPUS

cor•po•ral /ˈkoɚpərəl/ *noun, pl* **-rals** [*count*] : an officer in the army or marines with a rank below sergeant — see also LANCE CORPORAL

corporal punishment *noun* [*noncount*] : punishment that involves hitting someone : physical punishment ▪ The school banned *corporal punishment* many years ago.

cor•po•rate /ˈkoɚpərət/ *adj*
1 a : involving or associated with a corporation ▪ We have to change the *corporate* structure to survive. ▪ A bunch of *corporate* types in suits were sitting at the table in the conference room. ▪ *corporate* debt/bonds/taxes **b** : consisting of or including large corporations ▪ He is one of the most powerful men in *corporate* America. **c** *often disapproving* : produced by or associated with large corporations ▪ *corporate* rock music ▪ *corporate* art
2 : formed into a legal corporation ▪ The business is a *corporate* entity.

cor•po•ra•tion /ˌkoɚpəˈreɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count*] : a large business or organization that under the law has the rights and duties of an individual and follows a specific purpose ▪ He works as a consultant for/to several large *corporations*. ▪ a community development *corporation*

cor•po•re•al /koɚˈporijəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* : having or consisting of a physical body or form ▪ *corporeal* existence ▪ the *corporeal* nature of matter — opposite INCORPOREAL

corps /ˈkoɚ/ *noun, pl* **corps** /ˈkoɚz/ [*count*]
1 a : an organized part of the military — used in proper names ▪ the U.S. Marine *Corps* ▪ the Army *Corps* of Engineers ▪ the Signal *Corps* **b** : a large military group consisting of two or more divisions
2 : a group of people who are involved in some activity ▪ members of the press *corps* ▪ a *corps* of volunteers — see also DIPLOMATIC CORPS, PEACE CORPS

corpse /ˈkoɚps/ *noun, pl* **corps•es** [*count*] : a dead body ▪ a battlefield strewn with *corpses*

cor•pu•lent /ˈkoɚpjələnt/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* : fat ▪ a *corpulent* [=*obese*] man ▪ her large, *corpulent* body
– **cor•pu•lence** /ˈkoɚpjələns/ *noun* [*noncount*]

cor•pus /ˈkoɚpəs/ *noun, pl* **cor•po•ra** /ˈkoɚpərə/ [*count*]
1 : a collection of writings, conversations, speeches, etc., that people use to study and describe a language ▪ a computerized *corpus* of English
2 : a collection of poems, paintings, songs, etc. ▪ the painter's *corpus* of work [=all the paintings the painter has done]
– see also HABEAS CORPUS

cor•pus•cle /ˈkoɚˌpʌsəl/ *noun, pl* **-pus•cles** [*count*] *biology* : one of the cells that move in the body; *especially* : a blood cell ▪ a red/white blood *corpuscle*

[1]cor•ral /kəˈræl, *Brit* kəˈrɑːl/ *noun, pl* **-rals** [*count*] : an area that is surrounded by a fence and that is used for holding animals (such as cows and horses) on a farm or ranch

[2]corral *verb* **-rals**; **-ralled**; **-ral•ling** [+ *obj*] : to gather and put (cows, horses, etc.) into a corral ▪ *corralling* cattle — often used figuratively ▪ He *corralled* us all into his office for a quick meeting. ▪ *corralling* [=*collecting, gathering*] votes for next month's election

[1]cor•rect /kəˈrɛkt/ *adj*
1 : true or accurate : agreeing with facts : RIGHT ▪ What's the *correct* answer/response to this question? ▪ She is *correct* (in saying) that more money is needed. ▪ Yes, that's *correct*. ▪ Her watch never tells the *correct* time. ▪ an anatomically *correct* drawing of the human body
2 : having no errors or mistakes ▪ a grammatically *correct* sentence ▪ *correct* pronunciation/punctuation/spelling/usage
3 : proper or appropriate in a particular situation ▪ Did I give you the *correct* change? ▪ With the *correct* amount of water and sunlight, the plant will grow well. ▪ We're trying to find the *correct* [=*right*] way to deal with the problem. ▪ He was *correct* to do what he did. = He did the *correct* thing.
4 [*more* ~; *most* ~] *sometimes disapproving* : considered proper by people with a strict set of beliefs or values ▪ We need to find a more environmentally *correct* way of disposing these materials. [=a way that does not damage the environment] — see also POLITICALLY CORRECT
5 [*more* ~; *most* ~] *somewhat old-fashioned* : careful about behaving in a polite and socially accepted way ▪ a very *correct* young man
– **cor•rect•ly** *adv* ▪ You answered *correctly*. ▪ If I remember *correctly*, he was a good baseball player in high school. ▪ Did I spell your name *correctly*? – **cor•rect•ness** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ anatomical *correctness* ▪ We question the *correctness* of his actions.

[2]correct *verb* **-rects**; **-rect•ed**; **-rect•ing**
1 [+ *obj*] : to change (something) so that it is right, true, proper, etc. : to make (something) correct ▪ a computer program that *corrects* [=*fixes*] spelling errors ▪ I hate it when she *corrects* my grammar. ▪ These errors are easily *corrected*. = These errors can be *corrected* easily. ▪ Please *correct* your essay for punctuation errors. ✧ To ***correct someone*** is to say that someone has made a mistake and to give the correct information. ▪ "I use the title 'Ms.' not 'Mrs.,'" she *corrected* him. ▪ He quickly *corrected* himself and said that it cost two dollars, not four. ▪ ***Correct me if I'm wrong***, but I think you owe me another dollar. [=do you owe me another dollar?] ✧ The phrase ***I stand corrected*** is a somewhat formal way of saying that you have learned that you were wrong about something. ▪ "He's four years old, not five." "Well, then, *I stand corrected*." ▪ *I stand corrected*. The meeting is on Monday, not Tuesday as I'd thought.
2 [+ *obj*] : to mark the errors on (something that a person has written) ▪ Our teacher hasn't finished *correcting* our tests yet. ▪ He *corrects* papers with a red pen.
3 [+ *obj*] : to deal with or take care of (a problem, bad situation, etc.) successfully ▪ We are finding ways to *correct* this difficult situation. ▪ We'll *correct* the problem with the circuit as soon as possible. ▪ These medicines are used for *correcting* chemical imbalances in the brain. ▪ She's having surgery that will *correct* her vision. [=that will make her bad vision good/better]
4 : to make an amount or number more accurate by considering other information — usually + *for* [*no obj*] The measurements are not accurate because I didn't *correct for* the change in temperature. [+ *obj*] We need to *correct* the measurements *for* the change in temperature.
– **cor•rect•able** /kəˈrɛktəbəl/ *adj* ▪ a *correctable* error ▪ a problem that is *correctable* by surgery

cor•rec•tion /kəˈrɛkʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**
1 [*count*] : a change that makes something right, true, accurate, etc. ▪ They ran/published a *correction* in today's paper. [=there was a statement in the newspaper saying that something printed in an earlier newspaper was not accurate] ▪ The teacher marked *corrections* on his students' tests. ▪ Please make *corrections* before handing in your compositions.
2 [*noncount*] : the act of making something (such as an error or a bad condition) accurate or better : the act of correcting something ▪ the *correction* of your mistakes ▪ people in need of vision *correction*
3 : the act or process of punishing and changing the behavior of people who have committed crimes [*noncount*] (*old-fashioned*) *correction* of criminals [*plural*] (*US*) — used to refer to government systems and actions that relate to pun-

ishing and dealing with criminals ▪ The state's overall spending on *corrections* has increased rapidly in recent years. ▪ the state Department of *Corrections* — often used before another noun ▪ a *corrections* officer [=an official in a jail or prison]

– **cor•rec•tion•al** /kə'rɛkʃənl̩/ *adj, always used before a noun, chiefly US* ▪ the state's ***correctional facilities/institutions*** [=prisons or jails]

correction fluid *noun* [*noncount*] : a liquid used to cover typing or writing errors

[1]cor•rec•tive /kə'rɛktɪv/ *adj* : meant to correct a problem : intended to make something better ▪ She had *corrective* surgery on her knee this past summer. ▪ People with bad eyesight usually need to wear *corrective* lenses, such as eyeglasses or contact lenses.

[2]corrective *noun, pl* **-tives** [*count*] *formal* : something that helps to make a problem or bad situation better ▪ The President's speech was intended to be a *corrective* [=*remedy*] to the country's feelings of fear and uncertainty.

[1]cor•re•late /'korə,leɪt/ *verb* **-lates**; **-lat•ed**; **-lat•ing** *formal*

1 [*no obj*] : to have a close connection with something : to have a correlation to something ✧ If two things *correlate*, a change in one thing results in a similar or an opposite change in the other thing. ▪ In general terms, brain size *correlates* with intelligence. [=a larger brain generally suggests greater intelligence] ▪ Some studies have shown that the success of students *correlates* negatively with the number of students in a class. [=when more students are in a class, the students are less successful] ▪ In this case, a difference in height *correlates* [=*corresponds*] to a difference in weight.

2 [+ *obj*] : to show that a close connection exists between (two or more things) ▪ There is no evidence *correlating* height and intelligence.

be correlated : to have a close connection : to correlate ▪ Brain size *is correlated* with intelligence.

[2]cor•re•late /'korələt/ *noun, pl* **-lates** [*count*] *technical* : either one of two things that are closely connected or correlated with each other ▪ brain size as a *correlate* of intelligence

cor•re•la•tion /ˌkorə'leɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** : the relationship between things that happen or change together [*noncount*] the *correlation* of brain size and/with intelligence — often + *between* ▪ the high/strong *correlation between* poverty and crime [=the fact that crime is more common when there is more poverty] [*count*] Researchers have found a direct *correlation between* smoking and lung cancer. ▪ She says that there's no *correlation between* being thin and being happy.

cor•rel•a•tive /kə'rɛlətɪv/ *adj, formal* : existing because something else exists : closely connected ▪ a doctor's duties and a patient's *correlative* rights ▪ As demand increases, we'll see a *correlative* increase in price.

– **correlative** *noun, pl* **-tives** [*count*]

cor•re•spond /ˌkorə'spɑ:nd/ *verb* **-sponds**; **-spond•ed**; **-spond•ing** [*no obj*]

1 : to be similar or equal *to* something ▪ In some countries, the role of president *corresponds to* that of prime minister. ▪ the joints on a horse that *correspond to* the human knees

2 : to have a direct relationship *to* or *with* something ▪ Each number *corresponds to* a location on the map. ▪ His statements do not *correspond to/with* the facts. [=do not match the facts] ▪ We'll revise the schedule to *correspond with* the school calendar. — see also CORRESPONDING

3 *somewhat formal* : to write to someone or to each other ▪ We haven't *corresponded* in years. [=we have not written letters/e-mails to each other for years] — often + *with* ▪ She still *corresponded* regularly *with* friends she met in college.

cor•re•spon•dence /ˌkorə'spɑ:ndəns/ *noun, pl* **-denc•es**

1 : the activity of writing letters or e-mails to someone [*noncount*] They communicated by telephone and *correspondence*. ▪ E-mail *correspondence* has become extremely important for modern businesses. [*singular*] The two men began a *correspondence* that would continue throughout their lives.

2 [*noncount*] : the letters or e-mails that people write to each other ▪ A book of the author's personal *correspondence* was published early last year. ▪ A formal tone is always used in business *correspondence*. ▪ I have a pile of *correspondence* [=letters from people] on my desk.

3 : a direct relationship *to* or *with* something or *between* two things [*noncount*] Note the *correspondence* of each number *to* a location on the map. ▪ Sometimes there is little *correspondence between* the way a word is spelled and the way it is pronounced in English. [*count*] Sometimes there are few *correspondences between* spelling and pronunciation.

4 : the fact of being similar or equal to something [*noncount*] The degree of *correspondence* between the two texts is startling. [=it is startling to see how closely they resemble each other] [*count*] There is a close *correspondence* between the two texts. ▪ There are many *correspondences* between them.

correspondence course *noun, pl* ~ **courses** [*count*] : a class in which students receive lessons and assignments in the mail or by e-mail and then return completed assignments in order to receive a grade ▪ She took a *correspondence course* in world religions.

cor•re•spon•dent /ˌkorə'spɑ:ndənt/ *noun, pl* **-dents** [*count*]

1 *somewhat formal* : someone who writes letters or e-mails to another person ▪ When writing to business *correspondents*, use a formal tone.

2 : a person whose job is to send news to a newspaper, radio station, or television program often from different places around the world ▪ We now turn to our political *correspondent* [=a person who sends news about politics] reporting from the nation's capital. ▪ a war *correspondent* [=a reporter who sends news from places where there are wars] for an American newspaper ▪ foreign *correspondents* [=reporters who send news from other countries]

corresponding *adj, always used before a noun*

1 : having the same characteristics as something else : matching something else ▪ The store earned 20 percent more this month than it did in the *corresponding* [=*same*] month last year. ▪ "Robert" is a boy's name, and the *corresponding* name for a girl is "Roberta."

2 : directly related to something ▪ a test question and its *corresponding* chapter in the textbook ▪ As the cost of steel goes up, expect to see a *corresponding* increase in building costs.

– **cor•re•spond•ing•ly** *adv* ▪ As the cost of steel goes up, building costs will rise *correspondingly*.

cor•ri•dor /'korədɚ, 'korəˌdoɚ/ *noun, pl* **-dors** [*count*]

1 : a long, narrow passage inside a building or train with doors that lead to rooms on each side ▪ She slowly walked down the long, dark *corridor*. [=*hall*, *hallway*] ▪ They pushed me down the hospital *corridor* to the operating room.

2 a : a long narrow piece of land ▪ A *corridor* of land lies between the two mountain ranges. **b** : a narrow area of land that is known for something specified ▪ a transportation *corridor*

the corridors of power see [1]POWER

cor•rob•o•rate /kə'rɑ:bəˌreɪt/ *verb* **-rates**; **-rat•ed**; **-rating** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to support or help prove (a statement, theory, etc.) by providing information or evidence ▪ Two witnesses *corroborated* [=*confirmed*] his story. — often used as *(be) corroborated* ▪ The theory has *been corroborated* by recent studies.

– **corroborating** *adj* ▪ No *corroborating* evidence was found. – **cor•rob•o•ra•tion** /kəˌrɑ:bə'reɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the *corroboration* of his story – **cor•rob•o•ra•tive** /kə'rɑ:bəˌreɪtɪv, kə'rɑ:bərətɪv/ *adj* ▪ *corroborative* evidence/testimony

cor•rode /kə'roʊd/ *verb* **-rode**; **-rod•ed**; **-rod•ing**

1 : to slowly break apart and destroy (metal, an object, etc.) through a chemical process [+ *obj*] Rainwater may *corrode* the steel containers. ▪ Over time, the pipes become *corroded* and need to be replaced. [*no obj*] After a few weeks in the ocean, the boat began to *corrode*.

2 [+ *obj*] : to gradually destroy or weaken (something) ▪ Years of lies and secrets had *corroded* their relationship.

– **cor•ro•sion** /kə'roʊʒən/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ a material that is resistant to *corrosion* [=that cannot be corroded easily]

cor•ro•sive /kə'roʊsɪv/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : causing corrosion: such as **a** : causing damage to metal or other materials through a chemical process ▪ highly *corrosive* chemicals/gases/liquids **b** : causing someone or something to become weak and damaged ▪ the *corrosive* [=*destructive*] effects of drug use ▪ She argues that racism is dangerous and *corrosive* to society.

cor•ru•gat•ed /'korəˌgeɪtəd/ *adj* : having a wavy surface — used to describe thin sheets of material (such as metal or cardboard) that have a surface in which there are many folds that look like a series of waves ▪ Their house had a dirt floor and a *corrugated* metal roof. ▪ *corrugated* boxes = boxes made out of *corrugated* cardboard

[1]cor•rupt /kə'rʌpt/ *verb* **-rupts**; **-rupt•ed**; **-rupt•ing**

1 : to cause (someone or something) to become dishonest,

immoral, etc. [+ *obj*] He believes that violence on television and film is *corrupting* our children. [=teaching bad beliefs and behaviors to our children] ▪ a politician *corrupted* by greed ▪ music that *corrupts* the morals of children ▪ *corrupting* the country's legal system [*no obj*] the *corrupting* influence/effects of power

2 [+ *obj*] : to change (something) so that it is less pure or valuable ▪ He's convinced that the Internet is *corrupting* [=*ruining*] the English language. ▪ Their idealism has been *corrupted* by cynicism.

3 [+ *obj*] : to change (a book, computer file, etc.) from the correct or original form ▪ The file has been *corrupted* and no longer works properly. ▪ *corrupted* databases/files ▪ a *corrupted* version of the ancient text

– **cor•rupt•er** *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] ▪ a *corrupter* of our nation's youth – **cor•rupt•ibil•i•ty** /kəˌrʌptəˈbɪlətiː/ *noun* [*noncount*] – **cor•rupt•ible** /kəˈrʌptəbəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ young people who are easily *corruptible*

²corrupt *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 a : doing things that are dishonest or illegal in order to make money or to gain or keep power ▪ The country's justice system is riddled with *corrupt* judges who accept bribes. ▪ *corrupt* politicians/officials ▪ *corrupt* cops who sell drugs **b** : done or controlled by dishonest and immoral people ▪ *corrupt* governments ▪ the country's *corrupt* legal system

2 : dishonest, evil, or immoral ▪ society's *corrupt* values

3 : changed or damaged : not in a correct or original form ▪ a *corrupt* version of the text ▪ The document is *corrupt*. ▪ a *corrupt* computer file that no longer works properly

– **cor•rupt•ly** *adv* – **cor•rupt•ness** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the *corruptness* of the local government

cor•rup•tion /kəˈrʌpʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**

1 [*noncount*] : dishonest or illegal behavior especially by powerful people (such as government officials or police officers) ▪ There are rumors of widespread *corruption* in the city government.

2 : the act of corrupting someone or something [*noncount*] the mafia's *corruption* of public officials ▪ *corruption* of the English language ▪ computer software that is supposed to prevent the *corruption* of files ▪ database *corruption* ▪ the *corruption* of a text [*count*] file *corruptions*

3 [*count*] : something that has been changed from its original form — usually singular ▪ The phrase "an apron" is a *corruption* of the original English phrase "a napron."

cor•sage /koɚˈsɑːʒ/ *noun, pl* **-sag•es** [*count*] : a flower or small group of flowers that a woman sometimes wears on her clothing or attached to her wrist on special occasions (such as weddings)

cor•sair /koɚˈseɚ/ *noun, pl* **-sairs** [*count*] *literary + old-fashioned* : ¹PIRATE 1

cor•set /ˈkoɚsət/ *noun, pl* **-sets** [*count*] : a tight, stiff piece of clothing worn by women under other clothing to make their waists appear smaller ✧ Corsets are no longer commonly worn.

– **cor•set•ed** /ˈkoɚsətəd/ *adj* ▪ tightly *corseted* ladies

cor•tege *also* **cor•tège** /koɚˈtɛʒ, *Brit* kɔˈteɪʒ/ *noun, pl* **-teg•es** *also* **-tège•es** [*count*] : a line of people or cars moving slowly at a funeral ▪ a funeral *cortege* [=*procession*]

cor•tex /ˈkoɚˌtɛks/ *noun, pl* **cor•ti•ces** /ˈkoɚtəˌsiːz/ *or* **cor•tex•es** [*count*] *medical* : the outer layer of an organ in the body and especially of the brain ▪ the cerebral *cortex* = the brain's *cortex*

– **cor•ti•cal** /ˈkoɚtɪkəl/ *adj* ▪ *cortical* thickness

cor•ti•sone /ˈkoɚtəˌsoʊn/ *noun* [*noncount*] *medical* : a hormone that is used to treat arthritis and other diseases

¹cosh /ˈkɑːʃ/ *noun, pl* **cosh•es** [*count*] *Brit* : a small, heavy weapon that is shaped like a stick

under the cosh *Brit, informal* : in a difficult situation ▪ They put us *under the cosh* for most of the game.

²cosh *verb* **coshes**; **coshed**; **cosh•ing** [+ *obj*] *Brit, informal* : to hit (someone) with a cosh ▪ He was *coshed* on the head.

co•sign /ˈkoʊˌsaɪn/ *verb* **-signs**; **-signed**; **-sign•ing** : to sign a document saying that you agree to share the responsibility for a loan or contract with another person [+ *obj*] My mother *cosigned* the loan on my car. ▪ *cosign* a lease [*no obj*] She *cosigned* for my car.

co•sig•na•to•ry /koʊˈsɪgnəˌtori, *Brit* kəʊˈsɪgnətri/ *noun, pl* **-ries** [*count*] *formal* : COSIGNER

co•sign•er /ˈkoʊˌsaɪnɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a person who signs an official document (such as a loan, contract, or law) with another person ▪ Both senators are *cosigners* of the bill. : a person who cosigns something ▪ My mother agreed to be a *cosigner* on my car loan.

co•sine /ˈkoʊˌsaɪn/ *noun, pl* **-sines** [*count*] *geometry* : the ratio between the long side (called the hypotenuse) and the side that is next to an acute angle in a right triangle

cos lettuce /ˈkɑːs-/ *noun* [*noncount*] *Brit* : ROMAINE

¹cos•met•ic /kɑzˈmɛtɪk/ *noun, pl* **-ics** [*count*] : a substance (such as a cream, lotion, or powder) that you put on your face or body to improve your appearance ▪ Use a *cosmetic* to hide the scar. — usually plural ▪ lipstick, nail polish, and other *cosmetics* ▪ shopping for *cosmetics* [=*makeup*]

²cosmetic *adj*

1 *always used before a noun* : used or done in order to improve a person's appearance ▪ *cosmetic* creams ▪ Almond oil is sometimes used in *cosmetic* products. ▪ medical procedures that are done for *cosmetic* purposes/reasons ▪ She says she's never had/undergone ***cosmetic surgery***. [=surgery done to improve a person's appearance]

2 : done in order to make something look better ▪ The house just needs some paint and a few other *cosmetic* [=*decorative*] changes.

3 [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not important or meaningful ▪ They made a few *cosmetic* [=*superficial*] changes to the deal, but they didn't change anything of real importance. ▪ The changes were purely *cosmetic*.

cos•me•tol•o•gist /ˌkɑːzməˈtɑːlədʒɪst/ *noun, pl* **-gists** [*count*] *US* : BEAUTICIAN

cos•me•tol•o•gy /ˌkɑːzməˈtɑːlədʒi/ *noun* [*noncount*] *US* : the job or skill of giving beauty treatments to women by washing and cutting hair, applying makeup, etc. ▪ a school of *cosmetology*

cos•mic /ˈkɑːzmɪk/ *adj*

1 *always used before a noun* : of or relating to the universe or outer space ▪ *cosmic* theories ▪ *cosmic* dust/radiation

2 : relating to spiritual matters ▪ *cosmic* beauty/wisdom

3 [*more* ~; *most* ~] : very large or important ▪ The discovery caused a *cosmic* shift in people's views of the world. ▪ a book of *cosmic* [=*great*, *major*, *profound*] significance

– **cos•mi•cal•ly** *adv* ▪ *cosmically* significant

cosmic ray *noun, pl* ~ **rays** [*count*] *technical* : a stream of energy that enters the Earth's atmosphere from outer space — usually plural

cos•mol•o•gy /kɑzˈmɑːlədʒi/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the scientific study of the origin and structure of the universe

– **cos•mo•log•i•cal** /ˌkɑːzməˈlɑːdʒɪkəl/ *adj* ▪ *cosmological* data – **cos•mol•o•gist** /kɑzˈmɑːlədʒɪst/ *noun, pl* **-gists** [*count*]

cos•mo•naut /ˈkɑːzməˌnɑːt/ *noun, pl* **-nauts** [*count*] : an astronaut in the space program of Russia or the former Soviet Union

¹cos•mo•pol•i•tan /ˌkɑːzməˈpɑːlətən/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : showing an interest in different cultures, ideas, etc. ▪ *cosmopolitan* [=*worldly*, *sophisticated*] writers ▪ Greater cultural diversity has led to a more *cosmopolitan* attitude among the town's younger generations. ▪ the *cosmopolitan* taste/sophistication of the store's customers

2 : having people from many different parts of the world ▪ It's one of the country's more *cosmopolitan* cities. ▪ the community's *cosmopolitan* atmosphere

– **cos•mo•pol•i•tan•ism** /ˌkɑːzməˈpɑːlətəˌnɪzəm/ *noun* [*noncount*]

²cosmopolitan *noun, pl* **-ans** [*count*] : a person who has lived in and knows about many different parts of the world ▪ a young *cosmopolitan*

cos•mos /ˈkɑːzməs, *Brit* ˈkɒzˌmɒs/ *noun, pl* **cosmos**

1 ***the cosmos*** : the universe especially when it is understood as an ordered system ▪ the origins of *the cosmos*

2 [*count*] : a tall plant that has usually white, pink, or red flowers

cos•set /ˈkɑːsət/ *verb* **-sets**; **-set•ed**; **-set•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to give (someone) a lot of care and attention or too much care and attention : PAMPER ▪ The hotel *cossets* its guests with friendly service. ▪ She had a safe, *cosseted* childhood.

¹cost /ˈkɑːst/ *noun, pl* **costs**

1 : the price of something : the amount of money that is needed to pay for or buy something [*count*] The original *cost* [=*price*] of the house was $200,000. ▪ She attends college at a *cost* of $15,000 a year. ▪ The average *cost* of raising a family has increased dramatically. ▪ We offer services at a fraction of the *cost* of other companies. ▪ bringing/driving down the *cost* of computers = lowering/reducing the *cost* of computers ▪ The person at fault in the accident is expected to

bear the *cost* of repairs. [=is expected to pay for the repairs] [*noncount*] What's the difference in *cost*? • We were able to update the room for very little *cost*. [=*money, expense*] • They believe that everyone should have access to adequate medical care, regardless of *cost*. ***synonyms*** see [1]PRICE

2 [*count*] : an amount of money that must be spent regularly to pay for something (such as running a business or raising a family) • The *cost* of doing business in this area is high. • We need better *cost* control. • The company needs to do some ***cost cutting***. [=needs to find ways to save money] — usually plural • production/manufacturing/operating *costs* • By keeping *costs* down, the company will make larger profits from its products. • the firm's efforts to control *costs* • Those are just some of the hidden *costs* [=*expenses*] of owning a house. • The government covers most of the *costs* of the program. [=pays for most of the program] • The family's medical *costs* have increased in the past year. • The company has tried to ***cut costs*** [=spend less money] in several areas. — see also COST OF LIVING

3 : something that is lost, damaged, or given up in order to achieve or get something [*noncount*] Winning the war, he believes, was worth the *cost* in lives. — often used after *at* • They had won the battle, but *at* what *cost*? Far too many people had died. • He had achieved fame, but ***at a cost***; he'd lost many friends and no longer talked to anyone in his family. • She completed the project on time but ***at the cost of*** her health. [=the work she did to complete the project on time damaged her health] • He always says what he thinks, even *at the cost of* hurting someone's feelings. [*count*] What are the *costs* and benefits of the new law? ✧ To do something ***at all costs*** or (less commonly) ***at any cost*** is to do it even if you have to suffer, work very hard, lose everything you have, etc. • She was determined to win *at all costs*. [=*no matter what*] • Obscene language should be avoided *at all costs*. [=never use obscene words] • He is determined to preserve his reputation *at any cost*.

4 *costs* [*plural*] : the money used to pay for a court case • She was fined 50 dollars and ordered to pay court *costs*.

at cost *US* ✧ If you buy or sell something ***at cost***, you buy or sell it for the amount of money that was needed to make it or get it. • We sold the books *at cost*. [=we sold the books for the same amount of money we paid to buy them; we did not make a profit from selling the books]

at no cost — used to say that something is free • Improvements have been made *at no cost* to taxpayers. • Club members can bring a friend *at no extra cost*.

count the cost see [1]COUNT

to your cost *chiefly Brit* : from your own bad experience • I found out *to my cost* that he was a liar. [=I found out that he was a liar when I was hurt by his lies]

[2]cost *verb* **costs**; **cost**; **cost•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 a : to have (an amount of money) as a price ✧ If something ***costs*** a certain amount of money, you have to pay that amount of money in order to buy it, use it, or do it. • Each ticket *costs* one dollar. • How much does it *cost*? = What does it *cost*? • This house *costs* more/less than most of the other houses in the area. • It *costs* more than $300,000. • (*informal*) New equipment ***costs money***. [=is expensive] • (*informal*) I want a new car that doesn't ***cost an arm and a leg***. [=that is not too expensive] **b** : to cause (someone) to pay an amount of money • The trip will *cost* you about $100 each way. • The project will end up *costing* the government an estimated 3.5 billion dollars. • It will *cost* you a lot of money, but it'll be worth it. • (*informal*) I can get the part you need, but ***it'll cost you***. [=you will have to pay a lot of money for it] ✧ If something does not ***cost (you) a penny*** or (*US*) ***cost (you) a dime/nickel***, you do not need to pay any money for it; it is free. • Come to my party. It won't *cost a dime*. = It won't *cost you a penny*.

2 a : to cause (someone) to lose something • Her mistakes *cost* them the game. [=they lost the game because of her mistakes] • The decision to drive that night nearly *cost* him his life. [=he almost died because of it] • His frequent absences ended up *costing* him his job. ✧ If something ***costs you dearly/dear***, it causes you to lose something or to suffer a lot. • Changing your mind now could *cost you dearly*. **b** : to cause (someone) to experience something unpleasant • The error *cost* me a reprimand, but nothing more serious than that. • a blunder that has *cost* her considerable embarrassment

3 *past tense* ***costed*** *Brit, business* : to determine how much money will be needed to pay for (something) — usually used as *(be) costed* • The project *was* originally *costed* at 3 million pounds. — often + *out* • The project has yet to *be costed out*. — see also COSTING

cost accounting *noun* [*noncount*] *business* : a system of recording and studying how much money a company spends

co•star /'koʊˌstɑɚ/ *noun, pl* **-stars** [*count*] : one of two or more main actors in a movie, television show, or play • the actress and her two *costars*

– **costar** *verb* **-stars**; **-starred**; **-star•ring** [+ *obj*] The film *costarred* Katharine Hepburn and Spencer Tracy. [*no obj*] He *costarred* in her most successful film.

cost–ben•e•fit /'kɑːst'bɛnəˌfɪt/ *adj, always used before a noun, business* : of or relating to the study of how much money a company earns compared to how much money it spends • *cost-benefit* analysis • *cost-benefit* calculations

cost–ef•fec•tive /'kɑːstə'fɛktɪv/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : producing good results without costing a lot of money • They need a more *cost-effective* [=*economical*] way to store data. • It's just not *cost-effective* for us to have two cars.

– **cost–ef•fec•tive•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

cost–ef•fi•cient /'kɑːstɪ'fɪʃənt/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : COST-EFFECTIVE

cos•ter•mon•ger /'kɑːstɚˌmʌŋgɚ/ *noun, pl* **-gers** [*count*] *Brit, old-fashioned* : a person who sells fruit and vegetables outside rather than in a store

costing *noun, pl* **-ings** *Brit, business*

1 [*noncount*] : the process of determining how much money will be needed to pay for something • *Costing* of the project will be completed early next month.

2 [*count*] : a plan or an estimate of how much money something will cost • a lack of accurate financial *costings*

cost•ly /'kɑːstli/ *adj* **cost•li•er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : having a high price : costing a lot : EXPENSIVE • *costly* jewelry • We use less *costly* materials in our products. • It was too *costly* to fix her car after the accident, so she decided to buy a new car instead.

2 : causing people to lose something or to suffer • They won the game, but their best player was injured, so it was a *costly* victory. • The decision to wait could be a *costly* mistake.

– **cost•li•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

cost of living *noun, pl* **costs of living** [*count*] : the amount of money that is required in a particular area or society to pay for the basic things that people need (such as food, clothing, and housing) • The city has one of the highest *costs of living* in the world. — usually singular • Every year or so, we get a pay raise to compensate for the rising *cost of living*. • The *cost of living* is much higher in that area.

cost price *noun* [*noncount*] *Brit* : the amount of money that is needed to make or get something that you are going to sell • The company has agreed to sell the vaccine ***at cost price***. [=(*US*) *at cost*]

[1]cos•tume /'kɑːˌstuːm, *Brit* 'kɒˌstjuːm/ *noun, pl* **-tumes** [*count*]

1 : the clothes that are worn by someone (such as an actor) who is trying to look like a different person or thing • children in their Halloween *costumes* • a colorful clown *costume*

2 : the clothes worn by a group of people especially during a particular time in the past • a formal 18th-century Japanese *costume* • The dancers were dressed in their ***national costumes***. [=the clothing that is traditional in their countries]

3 *Brit* : SWIMSUIT

in costume : wearing a costume • If all the actors are *in costume*, we're ready to begin. • The waiters were all *in* ancient Roman *costume*.

– **cos•tumed** /'kɑːˌstuːmd, *Brit* 'kɒˌstjuːmd/ *adj* • *costumed* actors

[2]costume *adj, always used before a noun* : involving people wearing costumes • You're invited to a *costume* party! • a *costume* ball • ***costume dramas*** [=movies that are set in the past in which the actors are dressed like people from the past]

costume jewelry *noun* [*noncount*] : fancy jewelry that is usually made of inexpensive materials rather than real gold, diamonds, etc.

cos•tum•er /'kɑːˌstuːmɚ, *Brit* 'kɒˌstjuːmə/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *US* : a person or company that makes, rents, or sells costumes

cos•tu•mi•er /kɑ'stuːmiˌeɪ, *Brit* kɒ'stjuːmiə/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *Brit* : COSTUMER

cosy *Brit spelling of* COZY

cot /'kɑːt/ *noun, pl* **cots** [*count*]

1 *US* : a narrow, light bed often made of cloth stretched over a folding frame — called also (*Brit*) *camp bed*

2 *Brit* : [1]CRIB 1a

cot death *noun, pl* ~ **deaths** [*count, noncount*] *Brit* : SUDDEN INFANT DEATH SYNDROME

co•te•rie /ˈkoʊtəri/ *noun, pl* **-ries** [*count*] *formal* : a small group of people who are interested in the same thing and who usually do not allow other people to join the group ▪ her *coterie* of fellow musicians ▪ His films are admired by a small *coterie* of critics.

co•til•lion /koʊˈtɪljən/ *noun, pl* **-lions** [*count*] *chiefly US, formal* : a large formal party for dancing : BALL

cot•tage /ˈkɑːtɪʤ/ *noun, pl* **-tag•es** [*count*] : a small house especially in the country ▪ We rented a *cottage* for the weekend. ▪ She owns a *cottage* at the beach.

cottage cheese *noun* [*noncount*] : a type of soft white cheese that has a mild flavor

cottage hospital *noun, pl* ~ **-tals** [*count*] *Brit* : a small hospital in the country

cottage industry *noun, pl* ~ **-tries** [*count*] : a system for making products to sell in which people work in their own homes and use their own equipment ▪ weaving, pottery, and other *cottage industries*

cot•tag•er /ˈkɑːtɪʤɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a person who lives in a cottage

[1]cot•ton /ˈkɑːtn̩/ *noun, pl* **-tons**

1 [*noncount*] : a soft, white material that grows on the seeds of a tall plant and that is used to make cloth ▪ They are in the field picking *cotton*. ▪ bales of *cotton*; *also* : the plants on which this material grows ▪ He grows *cotton*. ▪ fields of *cotton*

2 [*count, noncount*] : cloth that is made of cotton ▪ shirts/sheets made from *cotton*; *also* : clothing that is made of this cloth ▪ She doesn't wear *cotton* in the winter.

3 [*noncount*] *chiefly Brit* : yarn that is made of cotton

4 [*noncount*] *US* : COTTON WOOL

– cotton *adj* ▪ *cotton* fabrics/dresses ▪ The dress is *cotton*.

[2]cotton *verb* **-tons; -toned; -ton•ing**

cotton on [*phrasal verb*] ***cotton on (to something)*** *informal* : to begin to understand something : to catch on ▪ It took a while, but they are finally starting to *cotton on*. — often + *to* ▪ She *cottoned on to* the fact that I like her.

cotton to [*phrasal verb*] ***cotton to (someone or something)*** *US, informal* : to begin to like someone or something ▪ We *cottoned to* our new neighbors right away. ▪ He doesn't *cotton to* the idea of having children.

cotton ball *noun, pl* ~ **balls** [*count*] *US* : a small ball of cotton that can be used for a variety of purposes (such as removing makeup or cleaning a wound) and that is usually used once and then thrown away ▪ a bag of *cotton balls* — called also (*Brit*) *cotton wool ball*

cotton bud *noun, pl* ~ **buds** [*count*] *Brit* : COTTON SWAB

cotton candy *noun* [*noncount*] *US* : candy made from sugar that is boiled, spun into a soft material using a special machine, and then wound around a stick — called also (*Brit*) *candy floss*

cotton gin *noun, pl* ~ **gins** [*count*] : a machine that separates the seeds of cotton plants from the cotton

cot•ton•mouth /ˈkɑːtn̩ˌmaʊθ/ *noun, pl* **-mouths** [*count*] : WATER MOCCASIN

cottonmouth moccasin *noun, pl* ~ **-sins** [*count*] : WATER MOCCASIN

cot•ton–pick•ing /ˈkɑːtn̩ˌpɪkən/ *adj, always used before a noun, US, old-fashioned + informal* — used to make a statement more forceful ▪ She didn't do a *cotton-picking* [=*damned, darned*] thing all day. ▪ Now wait one *cotton-picking* minute! ▪ He is a *cotton-picking* [=*damned*] hypocrite.

cotton swab *noun, pl* ~ **swabs** [*count*] : a short stick that has round pieces of cotton at both ends — called also (*Brit*) *cotton bud*; compare Q-TIPS

cot•ton•tail /ˈkɑːtn̩ˌteɪl/ *noun, pl* **-tails** [*count*] : a small rabbit with a white tail

cot•ton•wood /ˈkɑːtn̩ˌwʊd/ *noun, pl* **-woods** [*count*] : a type of tree that grows in the U.S. and has seeds that look like they are covered with cotton

cotton wool *noun* [*noncount*] *Brit* : a mass of cotton that is used especially for cleaning the skin or wounds

cotton wool ball *noun, pl* ~ **balls** [*count*] *Brit* : COTTON BALL

cot•tony /ˈkɑːtni/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : like cotton : soft, fluffy, or covered with small soft hairs ▪ The toys are stuffed with a *cottony* material. ▪ *cottony* clouds ▪ The flowers are small and *cottony*.

[1]couch /ˈkaʊʧ/ *noun, pl* **couch•es** [*count*]

1 : a long piece of furniture on which a person can sit or lie down : SOFA — see picture at LIVING ROOM

2 : a piece of furniture for a patient to lie on at a doctor's office ▪ a psychiatrist's *couch*

[2]couch *verb* **couches; couched; couch•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to say or express (something) in a particular way — usually used as *(be) couched*; usually + *in* ▪ The letter *was couched in* polite terms.

couch potato *noun, pl* ~ **-toes** [*count*] *informal* + *disapproving* : someone who spends a lot of time sitting and watching television

cou•gar /ˈkuːgɚ/ *noun, pl* **cou•gars** *also* **cougar** [*count*] : a large brownish cat that was once common in North and South America — called also *mountain lion*, (*US*) *panther, puma*; see picture at CAT

[1]cough /ˈkɑːf/ *verb* **coughs; coughed; cough•ing** [*no obj*]

1 : to force air through your throat with a short, loud noise often because you are sick ▪ She was *coughing* and sneezing all day. ▪ The dust made him *cough*.

2 : to make a noise like that of coughing ▪ The engine *coughed* and sputtered and then stopped.

cough up [*phrasal verb*] ***cough up (something) or cough (something) up*** **1** : to have (something, such as blood) come up through your throat and out of your mouth when you cough ▪ He was *coughing up* blood. **2** *informal* : to give (something, such as money or information) to someone especially when you do not want to ▪ We had to *cough up* an extra hundred dollars for the car rental. ▪ The police made the suspect *cough up* the names of his accomplices. **3** *US, sports* : to fail to keep or hold (something) ▪ The quarterback *coughed up* [=*fumbled*] the ball. ▪ They *coughed up* [=*lost, gave up*] the lead in the second half.

[2]cough *noun, pl* **coughs** [*count*]

1 : a physical condition or illness that causes someone to cough ▪ He has a *cough* and a cold. ▪ They both have bad *coughs*. ▪ He has a terrible ***smoker's cough***. [=a cough caused by smoking] — see also WHOOPING COUGH

2 : an act of coughing or the sound made when someone coughs ▪ I heard a *cough* from the back of the church. ▪ He gave a *cough* [=he coughed] to get my attention. ▪ dry/hacking *coughs*

cough drop *noun, pl* ~ **drops** [*count*] : a small piece of candy that contains medicine to prevent coughing

cough syrup *noun* [*noncount*] : a usually sweet liquid that contains medicine used to stop coughing — called also *cough medicine*, (*Brit*) *cough mixture*

could /ˈkʊd, kəd/ *verb* [*modal verb*]

1 — used as the past tense of *can* ▪ When I was younger I *could* run fast, but I can't run fast now. ▪ Years ago you *could* buy a record album for a quarter. ▪ The car cost more than I *could* afford, so I bought a cheaper model. ▪ From where we stood, we *could* see for miles. ▪ She *could* be very rude at times. [=she was sometimes very rude] ▪ He never *could* quite fit in with the group. ▪ She said we *could* do whatever we wanted. [=she said, "You can do whatever you want."] ▪ How *could* something like this happen? ***usage*** see [1]CAN

2 a — used to say that something is possible ▪ You *could* [=*might, may*] be making the biggest mistake of your life! ▪ This *could* be our only chance to get our of here. ▪ His recovery *could* take months. ▪ This medicine *could* help your cold. ▪ The evidence is not conclusive, but he *could* (very well) be right. ▪ This news *could* mean trouble. ▪ Did you think he *could* still be alive? ▪ That kind of thing *could* happen to anyone. ▪ They *could* still succeed, although it's not likely. ▪ I think he *could* be trying to cheat us. ▪ Do you think he *could* [=*can*] really be serious? ▪ *Could* this be our ride? [=is this our ride?] **b** — used with *have* to say that something was possible but did not actually happen ▪ You *could have* been seriously hurt. ▪ The accident *could have* been worse. ▪ The movie *could have* been better. [=the movie wasn't very good] ▪ They *could have* succeeded if they had worked harder. ▪ The error *could* have lost the game for them. ▪ We *could* just as easily *have* fixed the engine ourselves. **c** — used to talk about something that is not possible but that is hoped or wished for ▪ We would go if only we *could*—but unfortunately we can't. ▪ We would have gone if only we *could* have—but unfortunately we couldn't. ▪ I wish I *could* fly! = (*formal*) Would that I *could* fly!

3 — used in speech to make a polite request or suggestion ▪ *Could* you please pass me the salt? ▪ *Could* [=*can*] I leave a little early today? ▪ If you *could* come early, we would be pleased. ▪ "*Could* I do it tomorrow instead of today?" "Yes,

you can." ▪ *Could* I get you a cup of coffee? [=do you want a cup of coffee?] ▪ If tape doesn't work, you *could* try glue. ▪ "Where can I stay?" "Well, you ***could always*** stay with me."

4 — used to say that you are annoyed by something that was or was not done ▪ He *could* have at least paid for dessert! ▪ Why are you always late? You *could* try being on time for once! ▪ If she wasn't going to make it, she *could* have called. ▪ You *could* at least tell me why you were late!

5 — used in statements that express a strong emotional reaction ▪ I *could* have died of embarrassment! [=I was very embarrassed] ▪ I *could* just kill him! [=I am very angry at him] ▪ When she told me I'd won, I *could* almost have hugged her! [=I felt like hugging her] ▪ I'm so frustrated I *could* scream! [=I feel like screaming]

6 — used in statements that describe something as very bad, good, etc. ▪ What *could* be better than this? ▪ Registering *could* not be simpler. [=registering is very simple] ▪ I *could* hardly be more pleased [=I'm very pleased] with the way things are going. ▪ The situation ***couldn't be worse/better***. [=the situation is as bad/good as it can be] ▪ I ***couldn't be happier*** [=I'm very happy] with the way our new kitchen looks.

could care less see ²CARE

could do with ✧ If you *could do with* something, you need it or would be helped by getting or having it. ▪ Is there a restaurant nearby? I *could do with* something to eat. ▪ This room *could do with* a fresh coat of paint.

couldn't /ˈkʊdn̩t/ — used as a contraction of *could not* ▪ I tried but I *couldn't* do it.

couldn't care less see ²CARE

could've /ˈkʊdəv/ — used as a contraction of *could have* ▪ I *could've* done it if I had more time.

cou•lis /kuˈliː/ *noun, pl* **cou•lis** /kuˈliːz/ [*count, noncount*] : a thick sauce made from vegetables or fruit ▪ raspberry *coulis*

¹coun•cil /ˈkaʊnsəl/ *noun, pl* **-cils** [*count*]

1 : a group of people who are chosen to make rules, laws, or decisions about something ▪ The city *council* is considering a ban on smoking in restaurants. ▪ the town/parish *council* ▪ a national security *council* ▪ a tribal *council*

2 : a group of people who provide advice or guidance on something ▪ the governor's *council* on physical fitness ▪ the king's *council*

Do not confuse *council* with *counsel*.

²council *adj, always used before a noun*

1 : of or relating to a council ▪ a *council* member/meeting

2 *Brit* : provided by a local government council for people to live in for low rent ▪ *council* estates/houses/flats

coun•cil•lor *or US* **coun•cil•or** /ˈkaʊnslɚ/ *noun, pl* **-cil•lors** *or US* **-cil•ors** [*count*] : a member of a council ▪ a city *councillor*

Do not confuse *councillor* with *counselor*.

coun•cil•man /ˈkaʊnsəlmən/ *noun, pl* **-men** /-mən/ [*count*] *US* : a person (especially a man) who is a member of a council ▪ a city *councilman*

council•wom•an /ˈkaʊnsəlˌwʊmən/ *noun, pl* **-wom•en** /-ˌwɪmən/ [*count*] *US* : a woman who is a member of a council ▪ a town *councilwoman*

¹coun•sel /ˈkaʊnsəl/ *noun, pl* **counsel**

1 [*noncount*] *formal* : advice given to someone ▪ You were unwise to reject my *counsel*. ▪ The student sought *counsel* from her teacher.

2 *law* : a lawyer who represents a person or group in a court of law [*noncount*] She is serving as *counsel* for the defendant. ▪ On the advice of *counsel* [=because of the lawyer's advice], she refused to answer the question. [*count*] the company's chief/general *counsel* ▪ a defense/legal *counsel* ▪ All *counsel* are expected to obey the rules of the court.

Do not confuse *counsel* with *council*.

²counsel *verb* **-sels**; *US* **-seled** *or Brit* **-selled**; *US* **-sel•ing** *or Brit* **-sel•ling** [+ *obj*] *formal*

1 a : to give advice to (someone) ▪ She *counseled* [=*advised*] him not to accept the offer. **b** : to listen to and give support or advice to (someone) especially as a job ▪ He *counsels* people who are trying to quit drinking.

2 : to suggest or recommend (something) ▪ The President's advisers *counseled* [=*advised*] restraint until the incident had been investigated.

counseling (*US*) *or Brit* **counselling** *noun* [*noncount*] : advice and support that is given to people to help them deal with problems, make important decisions, etc. ▪ She is receiving *counseling* to cope with the death of her husband. ▪ The college offers career *counseling*. ▪ drug/debt *counseling*

coun•sel•or (*US*) *or chiefly Brit* **coun•sel•lor** /ˈkaʊnslɚ/ *noun, pl US* **-sel•ors** *or chiefly Brit* **-sel•lors** [*count*]

1 : a person who provides advice as a job : a person who counsels people ▪ a marriage *counselor* ▪ a school ***guidance counselor*** [=a person who gives students advice about school, college, etc.]

2 *US* : a person who is in charge of young people at a summer camp ▪ He works as a camp *counselor*.

3 *US* : LAWYER ▪ a ***counselor at law*** — often used as a form of address ▪ I'd like to speak with you, *Counselor*.

Do not confuse *counselor* with *councillor*.

¹count /ˈkaʊnt/ *verb* **counts**; **count•ed**; **count•ing**

1 a : to add (people or things) together to find the total number [+ *obj*] *Count* the plates on the table. ▪ She made sure to *count* her change. ▪ *Count* how many fingers I am holding up. ▪ He *counted* seven deer in the field. ▪ When it comes to books, I have ***too many to count***. [=I have a lot of books] ▪ She is ***counting calories***. [=she counts the number of calories in the food she eats so that she won't eat too much] — often + *up* ▪ She was *counting up* the money in the envelope. ▪ All the votes were *counted up*, and he was the winner. [*no obj*] There are 10 days left until the end of school, *counting* from today. ▪ Keep *counting* until there are no more left to count. ▪ Don't interrupt me. I'm *counting*. **b** [*no obj*] : to say numbers in order ▪ Can your daughter *count* yet? ▪ The teacher taught the students to *count* by 10s. [=to say "10, 20, 30, etc."] — often + *to* or *up to* ▪ My son can *count to* one hundred. ▪ He *counted up to* 10 and then stopped.

2 [+ *obj*] : to include (someone or something) in a total ▪ She *counts* [=*numbers*] several musicians among her friends. [=her friends include musicians] ▪ There will be 150 people at the wedding, not *counting* children.

3 [*no obj*] : to be accepted or allowed officially ▪ There was a penalty on the play, so the goal does not *count*. [=the goal is not allowed]

4 a [+ *obj*] : to consider or regard (someone or something) in a specified way ▪ I *count* myself lucky. — often + *as* ▪ I don't *count* him *as* my friend anymore. ▪ She was *counted as* absent from school that day. **b** [*no obj*] : to be considered or regarded *as* something ▪ A laptop computer *counts as* a piece of luggage on the plane. ▪ The job is so easy that it hardly *counts as* work. [=it can hardly be considered to be work]

5 [*no obj*] : to have value or importance ▪ Every vote *counts*. ▪ He played well in the play-offs, when it really *counted*. [=*mattered*] — often + *for* ▪ My effort in class has to *count for* something! ▪ Her promises don't *count for* much. [=his promises don't have much value]

6 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* : to be considered in a specified way when a person or thing is being judged [*no obj*] His experience *counts* in his favor. [=his experience is a good thing that is in his favor] ▪ His lack of experience *counts* against him. ▪ A wrong answer on the quiz will not *count* against [=will not hurt] your final grade. [+ *obj*] They *counted* his lack of job experience against him. ▪ A wrong answer on the quiz will not be *counted* against your final grade.

and counting : with more to come ▪ He is 47 years old *and counting*. ▪ They have been in business for 50 years *and counting*.

count down [*phrasal verb*] **1** : to count numbers in a reverse order from higher numbers to lower ones ▪ He *counted down* from 10 to 1. **2** ***count down (something)*** *also* ***count (something) down*** : to pay close attention to the number of (days, miles, etc.) that remain until a particular moment or event is reached ▪ He is *counting down* the days left in the school year. [=he is eagerly looking forward to the end of the school year] ▪ We were *counting down* the miles as we approached our destination.

count heads : to count how many people are present at a place ▪ The coach *counted heads* before the bus left.

count in [*phrasal verb*] ***count (someone) in*** : to plan to include (someone) in an activity : to consider (someone) as one of the people who will be doing something ▪ "Do you want to go to the beach with us?" "Yes! *Count* me *in*!"

count off [*phrasal verb*] **1** : to count numbers that are spaced a certain number apart ▪ The students *counted off* by twos. [=counted 2, 4, 6, 8, etc.] **2** ***count off (something)*** *or* ***count (something) off*** : to list (something) out loud ▪ She *counted off* all the things she wanted to do.

count on/upon [*phrasal verb*] **1** ***count on/upon (someone)*** **a :** to trust (someone) : to rely or depend on (someone) to do something ▪ He isn't someone you can *count on* all the time. ▪ I am *counting on* you to help me through this difficult time. ▪ She is *counted on* [=*trusted*] as a leader. **b :** to expect (someone) to do something ▪ I wouldn't *count on* him to win the match. **2** ***count on/upon (something)*** **:** to expect (something) to happen ▪ My parents might loan me some money, but I can't *count on* it. ▪ She is *counting on* a big tax refund this year. ▪ The kids are *counting on* going to the movies. Don't disappoint them! ▪ They were not *counting on* getting a flat tire on the way to the restaurant.

count out [*phrasal verb*] **1** ***count (someone) out*** **:** to not include (someone) in an activity ▪ If you are looking for people to help you clean the house today, *count* me *out*. [=don't include me; I won't be helping you] **2** ***count (someone or something) out*** *or* ***count out (someone or something)*** **:** to decide that (someone or something) cannot win or succeed ▪ Don't *count out* our team just yet. They could still win.

count the cost **:** to feel the bad effects of a mistake, accident, etc. ▪ He was careless and now he's *counting the cost*. = Now he's *counting the cost* of his carelessness.

count toward/towards [*phrasal verb*] ***count toward/towards (something)*** *or* ***count (something) toward/towards (something)*** **:** to have value as a credit or payment in relation to (something) ▪ The credits you earned for this class *count toward* your degree. [=they are added to the total number of credits you have earned for your degree] — often used as *(be) counted toward/towards* ▪ Fifty dollars will *be counted towards* [=*credited to*] your next bill.

count your blessings see BLESSING

count your chickens before they hatch see [1]CHICKEN

stand up and be counted see [1]STAND

who's counting? *informal + humorous* — used to say that you do not care about how large a number is ▪ Tomorrow's my 80th birthday, but *who's counting*?

[2]count *noun, pl* **counts**

1 [*count*] **a :** an act or process of adding people or things together to find the total number : an act or process of counting — usually singular ▪ They completed the ballot *count* late last night. ▪ At (my) last *count* [=the last time I counted], I had 50 responses to the invitation. ▪ According to the last *count*, he still needs many more votes. ▪ The official *count* showed that 40 people were killed in the hurricane. ▪ The teacher took/did a quick *count* of the students. [=the teacher quickly counted the students] — see also HEAD COUNT **b :** the total number that is counted — usually singular ▪ The final *count* [=*tally*] of people at the conference was over 200. — see also BLOOD COUNT, BODY COUNT, POLLEN COUNT

2 [*singular*] **:** an act or process of saying numbers in order until a particular number is reached ▪ The boxer took an eight-*count* before getting up again. [=the referee counted to eight before the boxer got up again] — usually + *of* ▪ I'll give you a *count of* three to get out of here. = I'll give you ***until the count of*** three to get out of here. ▪ If you're not out of here ***by the count of*** three [=by the time I count to three], I'm calling the police. ▪ Jump off the diving board ***at the count of*** 10. [=when I say "10" after counting "one, two, three, . . . " etc.] ▪ Hold your breath ***for a count of*** 10. [=for the amount of time that it takes to count to 10]

3 [*count*] *law* **:** one of the crimes that someone is charged with — often + *of* ▪ She was charged with two *counts of* theft, and she was found guilty on both *counts*.

4 [*count*] **:** an idea or opinion that is expressed in a statement, argument, etc. ▪ The theory is wrong ***on all/several counts***. [=all/several parts of the theory are wrong] ▪ I agree with you ***on both counts***. [=I agree with both the points you have made]

5 ***the count*** *baseball* **:** the number of balls and strikes that have been pitched to a batter ▪ *The count* is two balls, two strikes. ▪ He was behind/ahead in *the count*. [=he had more/fewer strikes than balls against him] ✧ A ***full count*** is a situation in baseball in which a batter has three balls and two strikes.

down for the count (*US*) *or* ***out for the count*** *of a boxer* **:** knocked down and unable to get up again while the referee counts to 10 ▪ The boxer was *down for the count*. [=*knocked out*] — often used figuratively ▪ The company may be about to go *down for the count*. [=may be about to fail completely and go out of business] ▪ Two minutes after getting into bed, I was *out for the count*. [=I was sleeping deeply]

keep count **:** to remember or keep a record of a number or total ▪ He's has had so many different girlfriends lately that I no longer can *keep count*. ▪ She is *keeping count* [=*keeping track*] of the hours she spends watching TV.

lose count **:** to forget a number or total ▪ I've *lost count* [=*lost track*] of how many different girlfriends he's had. ▪ I was counting the money when he interrupted me and made me *lose count*.

– compare [3]COUNT

[3]count *noun, pl* **counts** [*count*] **:** a nobleman in some European counties who has a high rank similar to a British earl — compare [2]COUNT

count·down /ˈkaʊntˌdaʊn/ *noun, pl* **-downs** [*count*]

1 : the act of counting down the number of seconds that remain before something (such as the launch of a rocket) happens — usually singular ▪ Begin the *countdown*. ▪ The engineers stopped the *countdown* because something was wrong with the engine.

2 : the period of time before an important or special event — usually singular; usually + *to* ▪ the *countdown to* summer vacation ▪ the steady *countdown to* war

[1]coun·te·nance /ˈkaʊntn̩əns/ *noun, pl* **-nanc·es** [*count*] *formal + literary* **:** the appearance of a person's face : a person's expression ▪ The photograph showed his somber *countenance*.

[2]countenance *verb* **-nances; -nanced; -nanc·ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* **:** to accept, support, or approve of (something) ▪ The city would not *countenance* [=*permit*] a rock concert in the park. ▪ The leader did not officially *countenance* [=*encourage*] negotiations with the rebels.

[1]count·er /ˈkaʊntɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

1 : a piece of furniture with a flat surface that workers and customers stand on opposite sides of when doing business in a store, restaurant, etc. ▪ He walked up to the *counter* and ordered his food. ▪ There was a long line at the sales/checkout *counter*. ▪ I put my money down on the *counter*. ▪ She recognized the man ***behind the counter***. — see also LUNCH COUNTER

2 *US* **a :** a long, flat surface on which food is prepared in a kitchen ▪ a kitchen *counter* ▪ I wish my kitchen had more ***counter space***. [=I wish it had more counters or a bigger counter] — called also *countertop*, (*Brit*) *worktop*; see picture at KITCHEN **b :** a flat surface around a sink in a bathroom ▪ a bathroom *counter* — called also *countertop*

3 : a small object that is used in some board games

over the counter **:** without a special note (called a prescription) from a doctor ▪ The drug is available *over the counter*.

under the counter **:** secretly and usually illegally ▪ The workers were paid *under the counter*. [=*under the table*]

– compare [2]COUNTER, [4]COUNTER

[2]counter *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] **:** a person or device that counts something ▪ The *counter* records how many people visit the Web site. — see also BEAN COUNTER, GEIGER COUNTER — compare [1]COUNTER, [4]COUNTER

[3]coun·ter /ˈkaʊntɚ/ *verb* **-ters; -tered; -ter·ing**

1 a [*no obj*] **:** to do something in defense or in response to something — often + *with* ▪ She *countered with* some of the most brilliant chess moves ever seen. ▪ He *countered with* a punch to the other fighter's head. **b** [+ *obj*] **:** to make (something) less effective or ineffective ▪ This pill will *counter* [=*counteract*] the side effects of the other one.

2 : to say (something) in response to something that another person has said [+ *obj*] When they blamed him for the collapse of the bridge, he *countered* that his warnings about the bridge had been ignored. ▪ "I could say the same thing about you," she *countered*. [*no obj*] After she made her point, he could not *counter* with anything.

[4]counter *noun, pl* **-ters** [*count*] *formal* **:** something that is made or done as a defense against or response to something else : something that makes something else less effective or ineffective — usually singular; usually + *to* ▪ The policy is intended as a *counter* to efforts to decrease spending on education. — compare [1]COUNTER, [2]COUNTER

[5]counter *adv* **:** in a way that goes against or does not agree with something — + *to* ▪ The soldier acted *counter to* his orders. [=he did something that was against his orders] ▪ His theory ***ran counter to*** [=was opposed to; did not agree with] the beliefs of his time. ▪ Such behavior *runs counter to* the values of society.

coun·ter- /ˈkaʊntɚ/ *prefix*

1 : in a direction opposite to ▪ *counter*clockwise

2 : as a reaction against ▪ *counter*offensive

coun·ter·act /ˌkaʊntəˈækt/ *verb* **-acts**; **-act·ed**; **-act·ing** [+ *obj*] : act against (something) : to cause (something) to have less of an effect or to have no effect at all ▪ The drug will *counteract* the poison. ▪ The new fees will *counteract* [=*offset*] state cuts in the school's budget.

coun·ter·at·tack /ˈkaʊntərəˌtæk/ *noun, pl* **-tacks** [*count*] : an attack that is made in response to an attack by an enemy or opponent ▪ They launched a fierce *counterattack* by air once the fog cleared. ▪ The team finally mounted a *counterattack* in the last quarter of the game.
– **counterattack** *verb* **-tacks**; **-tacked**; **-tack·ing** [*no obj*] The enemy *counterattacked* [=*retaliated*] at dawn. [+ *obj*] He quickly *counterattacked* his opponent.

coun·ter·bal·ance /ˈkaʊntəˌbæləns/ *verb* **-anc·es**; **-anced**; **-anc·ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to have an effect that is opposite but equal to (something) : to balance (something) by being opposite ▪ Improved services for phone customers have been *counterbalanced* [=*offset*] by higher fees. ▪ The author's wry humor *counterbalances* the book's serious subject matter.
– **counterbalance** *noun, pl* **-ances** [*count*] ▪ The author's wry humor is a good *counterbalance* to the book's serious subject matter.

coun·ter·clock·wise /ˌkaʊntəˈklɑːkˌwaɪz/ *adv, US* : in the direction opposite to movement of a clock's hands ▪ Turn the screw *counterclockwise* [=(*Brit*) *anticlockwise*] one full turn. — opposite CLOCKWISE
– **counterclockwise** *adj* ▪ a *counterclockwise* [=(*Brit*) *anticlockwise*] direction

coun·ter·cul·ture /ˈkaʊntəˌkʌltʃɚ/ *noun, pl* **-tures** [*count*] : a culture with values and customs are very different from and usually opposed to those accepted by most of society ▪ the *counterculture* of the hippies; *also* : the people who make up a counterculture ▪ He was part of the antiwar *counterculture*. ▪ the drug *counterculture* — often used before another noun ▪ *counterculture* heroes/publications/struggles
– **coun·ter·cul·tur·al** /ˌkaʊntəˈkʌltʃərəl/ *adj* ▪ *countercultural* movements/values/ideas

coun·ter·es·pi·o·nage /ˌkaʊntəˈɛspijəˌnɑːʒ/ *noun* [*noncount*] *formal* : the activity of preventing or stopping enemies from spying ▪ He was involved in *counterespionage* against Germany in World War II.

[1]coun·ter·feit /ˈkaʊntəˌfɪt/ *verb* **-feits**; **-feit·ed**; **-feit·ing** [+ *obj*] : to make an exact copy of (something) in order to trick people ▪ They were *counterfeiting* money in his garage. ▪ He *counterfeited* [=*forged*] the documents.
– **counterfeiting** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ He was sent to jail for *counterfeiting*. – **coun·ter·feit·er** *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

[2]counterfeit *adj* : made to look like an exact copy of something in order to trick people ▪ *counterfeit* money/bills/currency ▪ The concert ticket is *counterfeit*.

[3]counterfeit *noun, pl* **-feits** [*count*] : something that is made to look like an exact copy of something else in order to trick people ▪ The 100-dollar bill turned out to be a *counterfeit*. [=*fake, phony*]

coun·ter·foil /ˈkaʊntəˌfojəl/ *noun, pl* **-foils** [*count*] *chiefly Brit* : the part of a check, ticket, etc., that can be kept as a record when it is torn off : STUB

coun·ter·in·sur·gen·cy /ˌkaʊntərɪnˈsɚʤənsi/ *noun, pl* **-cies** *formal* : action by a group, army, etc., against people who are fighting to take control of a government [*count*] The military has launched a *counterinsurgency*. [*noncount*] an expert in *counterinsurgency* — often used before another noun ▪ a *counterinsurgency* operation
– **coun·ter·in·sur·gent** *noun, pl* **-gents** [*count*] ▪ a band of *counterinsurgents*

coun·ter·in·tel·li·gence /ˌkaʊntərɪnˈtɛlәʤәns/ *noun* [*noncount*] *formal* : activity meant to hide the truth from an enemy or to prevent the enemy from learning secret information — often used before another noun ▪ *counterintelligence* agents/operations

coun·ter·in·tu·i·tive /ˌkaʊntərɪnˈtuːwətɪv, *Brit* ˌkaʊntərɪnˈtjuːətɪv/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* : different from what you would expect : not agreeing with what seems right or natural ▪ It may seem *counterintuitive*, but we do burn calories when we are sleeping. ▪ *counterintuitive* results

coun·ter·mand /ˈkaʊntɚˌmænd, *Brit* ˈkaʊntəˌmɑːnd/ *verb* **-mands**; **-mand·ed**; **-mand·ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to cancel (an order) especially by giving a new order ▪ Orders to blow up the bridge were *countermanded*.

coun·ter·mea·sure /ˈkaʊntəˌmɛʒɚ/ *noun, pl* **-sures** [*count*] : an action or device that is intended to stop or prevent something bad or dangerous — usually plural ▪ new *countermeasures* against terrorism ▪ The army used electronic *countermeasures* to block enemy radar.

coun·ter·of·fen·sive /ˈkaʊntərəˈfɛnsɪv/ *noun, pl* **-sives** [*count*] : an attack made in order to defend against an enemy or opponent ▪ They mounted/launched a *counteroffensive* against the enemy.

coun·ter·of·fer /ˈkaʊntəˌɑːfɚ/ *noun, pl* **-fers** [*count*] : an offer that is made by someone in response to a previous offer ▪ He turned down the deal and came back with a *counteroffer* asking for more money.

coun·ter·part /ˈkaʊntɚˌpɑɚt/ *noun, pl* **-parts** [*count*] : someone or something that has the same job or purpose as another ▪ The secretary of defense met with his *counterparts* in Asia to discuss the nuclear crisis. ▪ Metal tools replaced their stone *counterparts* many, many years ago. ▪ the lead actress and her male *counterpart*

[1]coun·ter·point /ˈkaʊntəˌpoɪnt/ *noun, pl* **-points**
1 *music* **a** : a combination of two or more melodies that are played together [*count*] a two-person *counterpoint* [*noncount*] The guitar and bass are played in *counterpoint*. **b** [*count*] : a melody played in combination with another
2 *formal* : something that is different from something else in usually a pleasing way [*count*] The dressing is a refreshing *counterpoint to* the spicy chicken. ▪ The painting is a pleasant *counterpoint to* his earlier works. [*noncount*] The music works in *counterpoint to* the images on the screen.

[2]counterpoint *verb* **-points**; **-point·ed**; **-point·ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to put two things together in a way that shows how different they are from each other : CONTRAST ▪ The violence of the movie is *counterpointed* by/with ironic humor.

coun·ter·pro·duc·tive /ˈkaʊntɚprəˈdʌktɪv/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not helpful : making the thing you want to happen less likely to happen ▪ His uncontrollable anger is very *counterproductive* to his attempt at saving his marriage. ▪ a *counterproductive* approach

coun·ter·rev·o·lu·tion /ˈkaʊntɚˌrɛvəˈluːʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** : action by a group, army, etc., that is done to overthrow a government that is in power because of an earlier revolution [*noncount*] The leader vowed to stop any attempt at *counterrevolution*. [*count*] Soldiers loyal to the President led the *counterrevolution*.
– **coun·ter·rev·o·lu·tion·ary** /ˈkaʊntɚˌrɛvəˈluːʃəˌneri, *Brit* ˈkaʊntəˌrɛvəˈluːʃənri/ *adj* ▪ *counterrevolutionary* forces
– **counterrevolutionary** *noun, pl* **-ar·ies** [*count*]

coun·ter·sign /ˈkaʊntɚˌsaɪn/ *verb* **-signs**; **-signed**; **-sign·ing** [+ *obj*] : to sign (a document) after another person has already signed it especially to show that it is valid or authentic ▪ The order has to be *countersigned* by a doctor.

coun·ter·ter·ror·ism /ˈkaʊntɚˈterɚˌɪzәm/ *noun* [*noncount*] : actions by a group, army, etc., that are done to prevent terrorist attacks and destroy terrorist networks — often used before another noun ▪ a *counterterrorism* agency
– **coun·ter·ter·ror·ist** /ˈkaʊntɚˈterɚɪst/ *adj* ▪ *counterterrorist* strategy

coun·ter·top /ˈkaʊntɚˌtɑːp/ *noun, pl* **-tops** *US* : [1]COUNTER 2

coun·ter·vail·ing /ˌkaʊntɚˈveɪlɪŋ/ *adj, always used before a noun, formal* : having an equal but opposite effect ▪ *countervailing* influences ▪ The policy has many faults and many *countervailing* virtues.

coun·ter·weight /ˈkaʊntɚˌweɪt/ *noun, pl* **-weights** [*count*] : a weight that provides a balance against something of equal weight ▪ The crane has a heavy *counterweight* on the back. — often used figuratively ▪ Their liberal views act as a *counterweight* to/against the governor's conservatism.

count·ess /ˈkaʊntәs/ *noun, pl* **-ess·es** [*count*]
1 : the wife of a count or an earl
2 : a woman who has the rank of count or earl

count·less /ˈkaʊntlәs/ *adj* : too many to be counted : very many ▪ He has written *countless* [=*numerous*] magazine and newspaper articles. ▪ There are *countless* reasons why that would not be a good idea. ▪ I've been there *countless* times.

count noun *noun, pl* ~ **nouns** [*count*] *grammar* : a noun (such as *bean* or *ball*) that has both a singular and plural form and can be used after a numeral, after words such as *many* or *few*, or after the indefinite article *a* or *an* — compare NONCOUNT NOUN

coun·tri·fied /ˈkʌntrɪˌfaɪd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *informal*
1 : suited to the country instead of the city ▪ a *countrified* man ▪ a restaurant with a *countrified* atmosphere
2 : played or sung like country music ▪ *countrified* rock

[1]coun·try /'kʌntri/ *noun, pl* **-tries**
1 a [*count*] : an area of land that is controlled by its own government : NATION ▪ The two *countries* have a lot in common. ▪ European/foreign *countries* ▪ They drove across the *country* from California to New York. ▪ They are living in different parts of the *country*. — see also MOTHER COUNTRY, OLD COUNTRY **b** ***the country*** : the people who live in a country ▪ *The* whole *country* was stunned by the news. ▪ The President has the support of most of *the country*.
2 [*noncount*] : an area or region that has a particular quality or feature or is known for a particular activity. ▪ He moved to the north *country* to fish and hunt. ▪ We went camping in the hill *country*. ▪ They drove through miles of open *country*. ▪ We took a trip to wine *country*. [=an area where grapes are grown and wine is made]
3 ***the country*** : land that is away from big towns and cities : COUNTRYSIDE ▪ She lives out in *the country*. ▪ They prefer *the country* to the city.
4 [*noncount*] : COUNTRY MUSIC ▪ She loves *country* and rock.
across country **1** : from one side of a country to the other. ▪ They drove *across country*. **2** : from one side of the countryside to the other ▪ The river runs *across country*. : by a course going directly over the countryside rather than by roads ▪ The group walked *across country*. — see also CROSS-COUNTRY
go to the country *Brit* : to call for a general election to be held ▪ He *went to the country* and won.

[2]country *adj, always used before a noun*
1 : of, relating to, or characteristic of the country ▪ a *country* town/road ▪ *country* living/comforts ▪ *country* folk
2 : of or relating to country music ▪ a *country* singer ▪ *country* radio

country and western *noun* [*noncount*] : COUNTRY MUSIC

country club *noun, pl* ~ **clubs** [*count*] : a private club where people go for social events and to play golf, tennis, etc.

coun·try dance /'kʌntri,dæns, *Brit* 'kʌntri,dɑ:ns/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a dance in which couples dance in long lines or circles
– **country dancing** *noun* [*noncount*]

country house *noun, pl* ~ **houses** [*count*] : a large house in the country typically owned by someone who also has a home in a city

coun·try·man /'kʌntrimən/ *noun, pl* **-men** /-mən/ [*count*] *formal*
1 : a person who lives in or comes from the same country as you : COMPATRIOT ▪ my fellow *countrymen*
2 *Brit* : a person who lives in the countryside

country mile *noun* [*singular*] *informal* : a long distance ▪ He lives a *country mile* from the nearest store. ▪ She beat the other swimmers by a *country mile*.

country music *noun* [*noncount*] : a style of music that developed in the southern and western U.S. and that often contains lyrics relating to the lives of people who live in the country

country rock *noun* [*noncount*] : a type of rock music that sounds similar to country music

country seat *noun, pl* ~ **seats** [*count*] *chiefly Brit* : a large house that is built on a large piece of land

coun·try·side /'kʌntri,saɪd/ *noun* [*noncount*] : land that is away from big towns and cities ▪ She lives in the *countryside*. [=*country*] ▪ We took a long drive through the open *countryside*.

coun·try·wide /'kʌntri'waɪd/ *adj* : happening or existing in all parts of a country : NATIONWIDE ▪ The murders attracted *countrywide* attention.
– **countrywide** *adv* ▪ The company has opened several stores *countrywide*.

coun·try·wom·an /'kʌntri,wʊmən/ *noun, pl* **-wom·en** /-,wɪmən/ [*count*]
1 : a woman born or living in the same country as someone else
2 *Brit* : a woman who lives in the countryside

coun·ty /'kaʊnti/ *noun, pl* **-ties** [*count*] : an area of a state or country that is larger than a city and has its own government to deal with local matters ▪ the largest school district in the *county* — often used before another noun ▪ the *county* sheriff ▪ a *county* fair

county court *noun, pl* ~ **courts** [*count*] : a court of law for cases within a county

county seat *noun, pl* ~ **seats** [*count*] *US* : the town or city in a county where the government offices and buildings are located

county town *noun, pl* ~ **towns** [*count*] *Brit* : COUNTY SEAT

coup /'ku:/ *noun, pl* **coups** [*count*]
1 : COUP D'ÉTAT ▪ a military *coup* ▪ a *coup* attempt
2 : an impressive victory or achievement that usually is difficult or unexpected ▪ It was a major *coup* when they got the Vice President to appear on their show for an interview.

coup de grâce *or* **coup de grace** /,ku:də'grɑ:s/ *noun, pl* **coups de grâce** *or* **coups de grace** /,ku:də'grɑ:s/ [*count*] *formal*
1 : an action or event that finally ends or destroys something that has been getting weaker or worse ▪ The legislature's decision to cut funding has administered the *coup de grâce* to the governor's proposal.
2 : a hit or shot that kills a person or animal that is suffering

coup d'état *or* **coup d'etat** /,ku:,deɪ'tɑ:/ *noun, pl* **coups d'état** *or* **coup d'etat** /,ku:,deɪ'tɑ:/ [*count*] : a sudden attempt by a small group of people to take over the government usually through violence ▪ a military *coup d'état* ▪ a bloody *coup d'état*

coupe (*US*) *or chiefly Brit* **cou·pé** /ku:'peɪ, 'ku:p, *Brit* 'ku:peɪ/ *noun, pl* **coupes** [*count*] : a car that has two doors and that has room for four or sometimes only for two people — compare SEDAN

[1]cou·ple /'kʌpəl/ *noun, pl* **couples** [*count*]
1 : two people who are married or who have a romantic or sexual relationship ▪ a happily married *couple* ▪ "Are they a *couple*?" "No, they are just good friends." ▪ Seventeen *couples* participated in the survey. ▪ The romance had gone out of their relationship, so they signed up for ***couples therapy***. [=therapy in which a psychologist helps couples solve problems with their relationships]
2 : two people or things that are together : PAIR — usually used in the phrase ***in couples*** ▪ The people were lined up *in couples*.
a couple *informal* **1** : two or a few of something ▪ Can you give me *a couple* more examples? ▪ This one costs *a couple* less dollars than that one. ✧ In informal U.S. English, *a couple* can be used like *a couple of* before a plural noun. ▪ I lost interest in the book after *a couple* chapters. ▪ We owned *a couple* dogs. ▪ We stopped for *a couple* drinks after work. It is often used with periods of time and numbers. ▪ I saw the movie *a couple* nights ago. ▪ We met *a couple* years ago. ▪ I took *a couple* weeks off. ▪ *a couple* hundred people ▪ *a couple* dozen **2** : two or a few ▪ "How many drinks have you had?" "Oh, just *a couple*."
a couple of : two of or a few of : two (things) or a few (things) ▪ It happened *a couple of* days ago. [=two days ago] ▪ I only had *a couple of* sips. ▪ Can you loan me *a couple of* dollars? ▪ I have *a couple of* favorite restaurants I go to. ▪ I'll be ready in *a couple of* minutes. [=I'll be ready soon] ▪ Our schedule is booked solid for *the next couple of* weeks. [=for the next two weeks] ▪ They've lost *the last/previous couple of* games.
– **cou·ple·dom** /'kʌpəldəm/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ They are breaking up after eight years of *coupledom*. [=after eight years of being a couple]

[2]couple *verb* **couples**; **cou·pled**; **cou·pling** [+ *obj*]
1 : to join (two things) together : CONNECT ▪ a device that makes it possible to *couple* the pieces ▪ The coils are loosely/tightly *coupled*.
2 : to join (something) *to* something else : CONNECT ▪ The wire is *coupled to* the terminal. ▪ It took an hour to *couple* the trailer *to* the truck.
couple with [*phrasal verb*] ***couple (something) with (something)*** : to join or combine (something) with (something else) ▪ The exhibit *couples* poems *with* paintings. — usually used as *(be) coupled with* ▪ An oil spill *coupled with* [=*combined with, together with*] strong winds brought disaster. ▪ The team's win, *coupled with* a loss by their rivals, put them in first place.
– **cou·pler** /'kʌplə/ *noun, pl* **-plers** [*count*] ▪ The company manufactures trailer *couplers*. [=*couplings, hitches*]

cou·plet /'kʌplət/ *noun, pl* **-plets** [*count*] : two lines of poetry that form a unit ▪ a rhyming *couplet* ▪ a poem made up of six *couplets*

cou·pling /'kʌplɪŋ/ *noun, pl* **-plings** [*count*]
1 : a device that connects two parts or things ▪ hose *couplings* [=*couplers*] ▪ the *couplings* between railroad cars

C

2 *formal* : the act of having sex ▪ erotic/illicit *couplings*
3 : the act of combining two things ▪ a/the *coupling* of literature and science

cou•pon /ˈkuːˌpɑːn, ˈkjuːˌpɑːn/ *noun, pl* **-pons** [*count*]
1 : a usually small piece of printed paper that lets you get a service or product for free or at a lower price ▪ Bring in this *coupon* for a free oil change. ▪ I'm always clipping *coupons* from the newspaper to use at the grocery store. ▪ The *coupon* is good for one free ice-cream cone.
2 *chiefly Brit* : a section of an advertisement that you can cut out and mail to a company in order to request information or to order a product or service ▪ Send in this *coupon* for more information.

cour•age /ˈkɚɪdʒ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the ability to do something that you know is difficult or dangerous ▪ The troops showed great *courage* [=*bravery*] in battle. ▪ She has the *courage* to support unpopular causes. ▪ It takes *courage* to stand up for your rights. ▪ I finally worked/got up the *courage* [=*nerve*] to tell him the bad news. ▪ They showed great *courage* [=*fearlessness*] and determination. ▪ Eventually she summoned (up) the *courage* to confront him. ▪ They showed ***courage under fire***. [=they were brave while they were being shot at or while they were being strongly criticized] ▪ He has ***the courage of his convictions***. [=he is not afraid to do what he believes is right]

cou•ra•geous /kəˈreɪdʒəs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : very brave : having or showing courage ▪ a *courageous* soldier ▪ She was a *courageous* woman who wasn't afraid to support unpopular causes. ▪ a *courageous* act/decision ▪ a *courageous* [=*fearless*] companion
– **cou•ra•geous•ly** *adv* ▪ They have fought *courageously* for their rights. – **cou•ra•geous•ness** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ a leader admired for his *courageousness*

cour•gette /kɚˈʒɛt/ *noun, pl* **-gettes** [*count*] *Brit* : ZUCCHINI

[1]cou•ri•er /ˈkɚijɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]
1 : a person whose job is to carry messages, packages, etc., from one person or place to another ▪ A *courier* [=*messenger*] will deliver the photo this afternoon. ▪ Police recently arrested a drug *courier* in our neighborhood. ▪ He worked as a bicycle *courier* in the city. [=a courier who uses a bicycle]
2 : a business that is used to send messages, packages, etc. ▪ The documents were sent by overnight *courier*.
3 *Brit* : a person who is employed by a travel company and whose job is to help people who are on holiday

[2]courier *verb* **-ers**; **-ered**; **-er•ing** [+ *obj*] *chiefly Brit* : to use a courier to send (a message, package, etc.) to a person or place ▪ The package was *couriered* overnight to our offices.

[1]course /ˈkoɚs/ *noun, pl* **cours•es**
1 [*count*] **a** : the path or direction that something or someone moves along ▪ the *course* of a river ▪ a ship's *course* ▪ The pilot brought the plane back ***on course***. ▪ The ship was blown ***off course*** by a storm. — often used figuratively ▪ This win puts the team back *on course* for the championship. ▪ The book is generally well written but it occasionally veers *off course*. [=it has some parts that do not seem to be about what the rest of the book is about] ▪ a battle that altered/changed ***the course of history*** [=that changed the way things happened in the years that followed] — see also COLLISION COURSE **b** : a path or route that runners, skiers, bikers, etc., move along especially in a race ▪ a cross-country/marathon/ski *course* — see also OBSTACLE COURSE, RACE-COURSE
2 [*count*] **a** : a series of classes about a particular subject in a school ▪ an introductory/training *course* ▪ I'm taking a few writing *courses* [=*classes*] at the university. ▪ She's taking a chemistry *course* this semester. — often used before another noun ▪ *course* materials ▪ *course* work/requirements ▪ I have a light/full ***course load*** this semester. [=I am taking few/many classes this semester] **b** : a group of classes that lead to a degree (sense 5) ▪ (*chiefly Brit*) She's beginning a four-year *course* in chemistry. [=(*US*) a four-year chemistry program] ▪ Students earn the degree after a two-year ***course of study***. — see also CORRESPONDENCE COURSE, CRASH COURSE, REFRESHER COURSE, SANDWICH COURSE, SURVEY COURSE
3 [*noncount*] : the normal or regular way that something happens over time ▪ There is no cure, but the treatment will slow the *course* of the disease. ▪ It's something you would never see in the normal/ordinary ***course of events***. [=if things were happening as they usually happen] ▪ payments made in the usual/normal/ordinary ***course of business*** [=as part of doing regular business] ▪ The disease usually ***runs its course*** in a few days. [=develops in the usual way; begins, gets worse, and ends]
4 [*noncount*] — used to describe what happens during a period of time or when something is being done ▪ They met 12 times during/in/over ***the course of*** a year. ▪ facts discovered in *the course of* research ▪ Things will get better ***in the course of time***. [=things will get better as time passes]
5 [*count*] : a way of behaving or proceeding that you choose ▪ Our wisest *course* is to retreat. ▪ We're trying to determine the best ***course of action*** [=the best actions; the best things to do] at this point.
6 [*count*] *medical* : a series of medicines or medical treatments that are given to someone over a period of time ▪ a new *course* of medication ▪ The doctor prescribed a 10-day *course* of antibiotics. ▪ a short/intensive *course* of therapy
7 [*count*] : a part of a meal that is served separately from other parts ▪ We had salad for the first *course*. ▪ You can choose what you want for the main *course*. ▪ A different wine was served with each *course*. ▪ a five-*course* dinner [=a dinner served in five separate parts]
8 [*count*] : GOLF COURSE ▪ an 18-hole *course*

in due course : after a normal amount of time has passed : in the expected time ▪ His discoveries led, *in due course*, to new forms of treatment. ▪ The reasons will become apparent *in due course*. [=*eventually*]
let nature take its course see NATURE
of course **1** — used to show that what is being said is very obvious or already generally known ▪ We're talking, *of course*, about what happened last night. ▪ She was late and rude—so *of course* she didn't get the job. ▪ *Of course*, it wasn't easy for me to admit I was wrong. ▪ "Has the bus already left?" "*Of course*." **2** — used informally to give permission or say yes in a way that shows you are very certain ▪ "May I borrow this book?" "*Of course*!" [=*absolutely, certainly*] ▪ "Will you go?" "*Of course*!" ▪ "Are you angry with me for being late?" "***Of course not***!" [=I am not at all angry] ▪ "Did you take the money?" "*Of course not*!" [=I definitely did not] **3** — used to stress that what you are saying is true and you feel no doubt about it ▪ *Of course* we'll be there. We wouldn't miss it for the world! ▪ *Of course* I don't hate you! How could you think such a thing? — see also *as a matter of course* at [1]MATTER
par for the course see PAR
pervert the course of justice see [1]PERVERT
stay the course see [1]STAY

[2]course *verb, always followed by an adverb or preposition* **courses**; **coursed**; **cours•ing** [*no obj*] : to move or flow quickly ▪ the blood *coursing* through my veins ▪ Tears were *coursing* down his cheeks.

[1]court /ˈkoɚt/ *noun, pl* **courts**
1 a [*noncount*] : a formal legal meeting in which evidence about crimes, disagreements, etc., is presented to a judge and often a jury so that decisions can be made according to the law ▪ *Court* is now in session. ▪ *Court* is adjourned for the day. — often used before another noun ▪ a *court* battle/fight ▪ *court* cases/records/costs **b** : a place where legal cases are heard [*count*] There was a large group of protesters outside the *court*. ▪ a lawyer who has appeared in *courts* around the country [*noncount*] His landlord threatened to ***take him to court***. [=to start a lawsuit against him; to sue him] ▪ The organization is prepared to ***go to court*** [=to start a lawsuit] to stop construction from proceeding. ▪ They were able to settle/resolve the case ***out of court***. [=without going to court] **c** [*count*] : an official group of people (such as a judge and jury) who listen to evidence and make decisions about legal cases ▪ The case is before the state's highest *court*. ▪ She's a judge on an appellate *court*. ▪ state/federal *courts* ▪ The prosecution has new evidence to submit to the *court*. ▪ Please explain to the *court* what happened that night. ▪ The *court* ruled/declared the law unconstitutional. ▪ The *court* reversed/rejected the lower court's decision.
2 [*count*] : a large flat surface that is shaped like a square or rectangle and that is used for playing games like tennis and basketball ▪ a basketball/tennis *court*
3 a : the place where the leader of a country and especially a king or queen lives and works [*count*] the *courts* of Europe [*noncount*] He spent a lot of time ***at court***. **b** [*count*] : a king or queen and the people who live and work with him or her ▪ The queen assembled her *court*. ▪ a member of the king's *court*
4 [*count*] **a** — used in the names of short streets ▪ My sister lives on Brynhurst *Court*. — abbr. *Ct*. **b** — used in the

names of apartment buildings or groups of apartment buildings ▪ I live in the Franklin *Court* apartments on Main Street. — see also MOTOR COURT **c** : COURTYARD ▪ the villa's inner *court* ▪ an interior *court* garden — see also FOOD COURT

hold court : to talk to a group of people who listen to what you say because it is funny or interesting ▪ The restaurant's owner was *holding court* at his usual table in the corner.

laugh out of court see [1]LAUGH

pay court to *formal + old-fashioned* : to give a lot of attention to (someone) in order to get approval, affection, etc. ▪ He does not approve of the young man who has *been paying court to* his daughter. [=who has been courting his daughter]

the ball is in your court see [1]BALL

the court of public/world opinion : the beliefs and judgment of most people ▪ The statement was quickly condemned in *the court of public opinion*. [=was condemned by the public]

[2]court *verb* **courts; court•ed; court•ing**

1 *somewhat old-fashioned* : to act in a way that shows that you want or intend to get married [*no obj*] The couple *courted* for two years before marrying. [+ *obj*] He was *courting* his college sweetheart.

2 *of an animal* : to perform the actions that lead to sexual activity [*no obj*] a pair of robins *courting* [+ *obj*] The male will sometimes *court* the female for hours.

3 [+ *obj*] : to give a lot of attention and praise to (someone) in order to get approval, support, etc. ▪ college teams *courting* high school basketball stars ▪ The government is *courting* [=*wooing*] investors from around the globe. ▪ The speech was clearly intended to *court* middle-class voters. ✧ If you ***court someone's favor*** or ***court favor with someone***, you try to get someone's approval. ▪ The company is *courting favor with* consumers by portraying itself as socially responsible.

4 [+ *obj*] : to act in a way that is likely to cause (something unpleasant) to happen to you ▪ Anyone who refuses to evacuate is ***courting disaster***. [=*flirting with disaster*] ▪ They knew they were ***courting danger/trouble*** by accepting donations from a convicted felon.

court card *noun, pl* ~ **cards** [*count*] *chiefly Brit* : FACE CARD

cour•te•ous /ˈkɚtijəs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : very polite in a way that shows respect ▪ The clerks were helpful and *courteous*. ▪ a *courteous* manner — opposite DISCOURTEOUS
– **cour•te•ous•ly** *adv* ▪ He answered my questions *courteously*. – **cour•te•ous•ness** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ I appreciated his *courteousness*.

cour•te•san /ˈkoɚtəzən, *Brit* ˌkɔːtəˈzæn/ *noun, pl* **-sans** [*count*] *old-fashioned* : a woman who has sex with rich or important men in exchange for money : a prostitute who has sex with wealthy and powerful men

[1]cour•te•sy /ˈkɚtəsi/ *noun, pl* **-sies**

1 [*noncount*] : polite behavior that shows respect for other people ▪ They treated us with *courtesy* and kindness. ▪ He didn't even have the ***common courtesy*** [=he was not even as polite as people can usually be expected to be] to say goodbye when he left.

2 [*count*] **a** : something that you do because it is polite, kind, etc. ▪ She did it as a *courtesy*, not because she had to. **b** : something that you say to be polite especially when you meet someone ▪ Everyone knows each other here, so we won't bother with the usual *courtesies*. ▪ They shook hands and exchanged *courtesies* before beginning their discussion.

courtesy of ✧ If you say that something has been provided ***through the courtesy of*** or ***(by) courtesy of*** a person, organization, business, etc., you are politely saying that they paid for it, gave it, or let it be used. ▪ The flowers were provided *through the courtesy of* a local florist. ▪ This program is brought to you *courtesy of* our sponsors. [=it has been paid for by our sponsors] The word ***courtesy*** is sometimes used informally by itself in this way. ▪ Photo *courtesy* Helen Jones. [=Helen Jones is allowing the photograph to be used] The phrase ***courtesy of*** is sometimes also used informally to indicate the cause of something. ▪ I have a bad cold now, *courtesy of* my brother. [=I have a bad cold that I caught from my brother]

courtesy phone [=a telephone that customers can use to call the company that provides it] to call for a car.

[2]courtesy *adj, always used before a noun*

1 : done in order to be polite ▪ They paid a ***courtesy call*** on the ambassador. [=they visited the ambassador because it was the polite thing to do]

2 : provided for free ▪ Important visitors to the conference were provided with *courtesy* cars. ▪ He picked up the airport

courtesy title *noun, pl* ~ **titles** [*count*] : a polite and formal word that is used in place of someone's name or as part of someone's name ▪ the *courtesy titles* "Mr.," "Mrs.," "Ms.," "Dr.," etc. ▪ As a child, he was taught to address his elders with the *courtesy titles* "sir" and "ma'am."

court•house /ˈkoɚtˌhaʊs/ *noun, pl* **-hous•es** [*count*] *US* : a building in which legal cases are heard

court•ier /ˈkoɚtijɚ/ *noun, pl* **-iers** [*count*] : a member of a royal court (sense 3b)

court•ly /ˈkoɚtli/ *adj* **court•li•er**; **-est** [*or more* ~; *most* ~] : polite and graceful in a formal way ▪ *courtly* manners ▪ a *courtly* gentleman
– **court•li•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

[1]court–mar•tial /ˈkoɚtˌmɑɚʃəl/ *noun, pl* **courts–martial** *also* **court–mar•tials**

1 : a military court : a court for people in the military who are accused of breaking military law [*noncount*] The officers will be tried by *court-martial*. [*count*] They will appear before a *court-martial*.

2 [*count*] : a trial in a military court ▪ The sergeant is facing a *court-martial* for failure to obey orders.

[2]court–martial *verb* **-tials**; *US* **-tialed** *or Brit* **-tialled**; *US* **-tial•ing** *or Brit* **-tial•ling** [+ *obj*] : to present evidence against (someone) in a military court : to put (someone) on trial in a military court ▪ He was *court-martialed* for failure to obey orders.

court of appeals (*US*) *or chiefly Brit* **court of appeal** *noun, pl* **courts of appeals** [*count*] *law*

1 : a court that studies the decisions made by a lower court and decides if they were correct — called also (*US*) *appeals court*, (*chiefly Brit*) *appeal court*

2 ***Court of Appeals*** *US* : any one of 13 courts in the U.S. below the Supreme Court ▪ the 9th/Ninth Circuit *Court of Appeals*

3 ***Court of Appeal*** *Brit* : the highest court in Britain below the House of Lords

court of law *noun, pl* **courts of law** [*count*] : [1]COURT 1a ▪ You have the right to a fair trial in a *court of law*.

court order *noun, pl* ~ **-ders** : a formal statement from a court that orders someone to do or stop doing something [*count*] He received a *court order* barring him from entering the building. [*noncount*] He is barred by *court order* from entering the building. ▪ The town is under *court order* to fix the problem.

court reporter *noun, pl* ~ **-ers** [*count*] : a person whose job is to write down exactly what is said and done during a legal trial

court•room /ˈkoɚtˌruːm/ *noun, pl* **-rooms** [*count*] : a room in which legal cases are heard

court•ship /ˈkoɚtˌʃɪp/ *noun, pl* **-ships**

1 *somewhat old-fashioned* : the activities that occur when people are developing a romantic relationship that could lead to marriage or the period of time when such activities occur [*count*] They had a two-year *courtship* before marrying. [*noncount*] the formalities of *courtship*

2 [*noncount*] : the behavior of animals that leads to sexual activity or the period of time when such behavior occurs ▪ The male of the species often displays aggression during *courtship*. — often used before another noun ▪ *courtship* behavior ▪ *courtship* displays/rituals

3 [*noncount*] : an attempt to convince someone to support you or to choose you or your organization ▪ the President's *courtship* of middle-class voters

court shoe *noun, pl* ~ **shoes** [*count*] *Brit* : [3]PUMP 1

court•side /ˈkoɚtˌsaɪd/ *noun* [*noncount*] *chiefly US* : the area at the edge of a tennis or basketball court ▪ Our seats were located a few rows (up) from *courtside*.
– **courtside** *adj* ▪ *courtside* seats – **courtside** *adv* ▪ We got to sit *courtside*. [=we got to sit in the seats that are closest to the court]

court•yard /ˈkoɚtˌjɑɚd/ *noun, pl* **-yards** [*count*] : an open space that is surrounded completely or partly by a building or group of buildings ▪ the palace *courtyards* ▪ The apartment overlooks a *courtyard*.

cous•cous /ˈkuːsˌkuːs/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a North African food that is made from wheat and is in the form of very small, round pieces; *also* : a dish of this food served with meat or vegetables ▪ lamb and vegetable *couscous*

cous•in /ˈkʌzən/ *noun, pl* **-ins** [*count*]

1 a : a child of your uncle or aunt — called also *first cousin*; see also SECOND COUSIN **b** : a person who is related to you but not in a close or direct way ▪ Everyone came to the wedding, including a distant *cousin* no one had heard from in years. — see also KISSING COUSIN
2 : a person who is from another country but whose culture is similar to your own ▪ our English *cousins*
3 : something that is similar or related to something else ▪ The cricket is a *cousin* of the grasshopper. ▪ hurricanes and their *cousins*, typhoons

cou·ture /ku'tuɚ, *Brit* ku'tjʊə/ *noun* [*noncount*] *somewhat formal*
1 : the business of designing, making, or selling women's clothes; *also* : women's clothes in general ▪ The book discusses the relationship between culture and *couture*.
2 : HAUTE COUTURE ▪ I can't afford to wear *couture*.

cou·tu·ri·er /ku'turijɚ, *Brit* ku'tjʊəriə/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a person or business that designs and makes clothes for women

[1]cove /'koʊv/ *noun, pl* **coves** [*count*] : a small area of ocean that is partly surrounded by land : a small, sheltered inlet or bay ▪ a coastline dotted with *coves* — compare [2]COVE

[2]cove *noun, pl* **coves** [*count*] *Brit, old-fashioned* : a man : CHAP ▪ a genial *cove* — compare [1]COVE

cov·en /'kʌvən/ *noun, pl* **-ens** [*count*] : a group of witches

cov·e·nant /'kʌvənənt/ *noun, pl* **-nants** [*count*]
1 *formal* : a formal and serious agreement or promise ▪ a *covenant* with God ▪ the *covenant* of marriage
2 *law* : a formal written agreement between two or more people, businesses, countries, etc. ▪ an international *covenant* on human rights ▪ The restrictive *covenants* of the building development prohibit the construction of buildings over 30 feet tall.

[1]cov·er /'kʌvɚ/ *verb* **-ers**; **-ered**; **-er·ing**
1 : to put something over, on top of, or in front of (something else) especially in order to protect, hide, or close it [+ *obj*] The gardener *covered* the soil with mulch. ▪ The furniture had been *covered* in a protective cloth. ▪ Be sure to *cover* the pot. [=put a cover on the pot] ▪ He *covered* his face with his hands. [=he put his hands over his face; he hid his face behind his hands] ▪ We *covered* the stains on the wall with a fresh coat of paint. ▪ You should *cover* your mouth when you cough. ▪ She *covered* her head with a scarf. ▪ tables *covered* with white linen ▪ He wears a hair piece to *cover* [=*hide*, *conceal*] his bald spot. [*no obj*] — used in recipes and instructions ▪ The recipe said: "Reduce heat. *Cover* [=put a cover/lid on the pot/pan] and continue cooking for another 10 minutes." ▪ Place the seed in the hole and *cover* with soil.
2 [+ *obj*] **a** : to be spread over or on top of (something) ▪ Water *covered* the floor. ▪ Snow *covered* the hills. **b** : to be over much or all of the surface of (something) ▪ Lakes *cover* much of the state. — usually used as *(be) covered* ▪ Much of the state *is covered* with lakes. ▪ The wall *is* completely *covered* with graffiti. ▪ His legs *were covered* in mosquito bites.
3 [+ *obj*] : to pass over or through (an area, distance, etc.) ▪ The hikers *covered* long distances every day. ▪ The bird may *cover* thousands of miles during its migration.
4 [+ *obj*] **a** : to have (something) as a subject : to relate to or provide information about (a particular subject) ▪ The course will *cover* the country's early history. ▪ an exam *covering* a semester's worth of material ▪ This material was *covered* in the book's first chapter. ▪ We'd better get started because we have a lot (of information) to *cover* in one hour. **b** : to relate to or have an effect on (something) ▪ The patent *covers* [=*applies to*] both kinds of devices/systems. ▪ The term "house" *covers* a wide array of buildings. [=many different kinds of buildings can be called houses]
5 [+ *obj*] : to report news about (something) ▪ He is an experienced journalist who has *covered* several presidential campaigns. ▪ She *covers* political news for the network.
6 [+ *obj*] *of insurance* **a** : to protect (someone) by promising to pay for loss, damage, etc. : to provide financial protection to (someone) ▪ The policy *covers* the traveler in any accident. **b** : to provide protection by promising to pay for (a problem, accident, etc.) : to provide financial protection against (something) ▪ The policy *covers* water damage. ▪ a policy *covering* loss by fire **c** : to provide payment for (something) ▪ My health insurance doesn't *cover* this treatment/drug.
7 [+ *obj*] **a** : to have enough money for (something) ▪ Your checking account balance will not *cover* the check. [=there is not enough money in your checking account to pay for the amount of the check] **b** : to pay for (something) ▪ He has enough money to *cover* tuition, but he can't afford to buy the textbooks he needs. ▪ This money should *cover* the cost of repairing the wall.
8 [+ *obj*] **a** : to guard or protect (something or someone) by being ready to shoot a gun or fire a weapon ▪ The ships were *covering* approaches to the harbor. ▪ Officer Blake's partner yelled "*Cover* me!" and ran for the door. **b** : to protect (yourself or someone else) from possible trouble or danger ▪ He was trying to *cover* himself by lying about his involvement in the scandal. ▪ (*US, informal + impolite*) He was trying to ***cover his ass/butt*** by lying.
9 [+ *obj*] **a** *sports* : to guard (an opponent) as part of your team's effort to prevent the other team from scoring ▪ He was assigned to *cover* the tight end. **b** *baseball* : to be in a position to receive a throw to (a base) ▪ The shortstop was *covering* second base. — see also *cover all the bases* at [1]BASE
10 [*no obj*] **a** : to help you by doing your job when you are away or not able to do it — + *for* ▪ A coworker *covered for* me during my vacation. ▪ She'll be out for a week, so the rest of us will have to *cover for* her. **b** : to hide the truth or lie for someone — + *for* ▪ He *covered for* his friend, insisting that he hadn't seen him all day.
11 [+ *obj*] **a** : to be responsible for selling or providing something to all the people in (an area) for a company, organization, etc. ▪ One salesperson *covers* the whole state. **b** : to provide something to (a group of people) ▪ There should be enough of the vaccine to *cover* everyone.
12 [+ *obj*] : to record or perform (a song that was previously recorded by someone else) ▪ The band has *covered* many hits from the 1980s.

cover up [*phrasal verb*] **1** ***cover up*** *or* ***cover (something) up*** *or* ***cover up (something)*** : to cover yourself, part of your body, etc., with something (such as clothing or a blanket) ▪ She quickly *covered up* with a robe. ▪ She quickly *covered* herself *up*. **2** ***cover (something) up*** *or* ***cover up (something)*** : to prevent people from learning the truth about (something, such as a crime) : to hide (something) ▪ They tried to *cover up* the crime/mistake/problem/scandal. ▪ I think they stole the money and then lied about it to *cover up* their guilt. — see also COVER-UP

cover your tracks see [1]TRACK

have (got) someone or something covered (*informal*) : to have done, gotten, or provided whatever is needed ▪ Don't worry about a thing. We've *got you covered*. [=we have taken care of everything that you might need] ▪ You don't need to buy soda for the party. We've already *got that covered*. [=we already have enough soda]

[2]cover *noun, pl* **-ers**
1 [*count*] : something that is put around or on top of another thing especially to protect, hide, or close it ▪ She placed a *cover* over the pan so that the oil wouldn't spatter. ▪ I put a *cover* on the sofa to protect it. ▪ a mattress *cover* ▪ I lifted the *cover* of the box and peaked inside. ▪ He unscrewed the *cover* [=*top*, *lid*] of the jar.
2 [*count*] : a blanket or sheet on a bed — usually plural ▪ She was in bed lying under the *covers*. ▪ He threw off the *covers* and rose to begin the day.
3 [*count*] **a** : the outer part of a book or magazine ▪ There's a picture of the author on the book's back/front *cover*. ▪ The model appeared on the (front) *covers* of many weeklies. ▪ She read the book ***from cover to cover***. [=she read all of the book] — see also COVER GIRL, COVER STORY **b** : the part of the case of a record album, CD, DVD, etc., that is seen from the outside ▪ The singer is posing in jeans and cowboy boots on the album *cover*.
4 : something that covers the ground or the sky [*singular*] The ground was hidden under a *cover* of snow. ▪ The moon was hidden behind a thick ***cloud cover***. [=behind thick clouds] [*noncount*] areas of light plant *cover* [=areas in which there are few plants] — see also GROUND COVER
5 [*noncount*] : a place or situation in which you are protected ▪ The roof provided *cover* from the rain. ▪ The soldiers sought *cover* behind the wall. ▪ The officer ordered the soldiers to ***take cover*** as the enemy began shooting. ▪ The hikers *took cover* under a tree and waited for the storm to pass. ▪ The hikers ran/dashed/headed ***for cover*** as the storm approached. ✧ If you ***break cover***, you come out from a place where you have been safe or hidden. ▪ The rabbit suddenly *broke cover* and ran across the field.
6 [*noncount*] : something that prevents actions, information, etc., from being seen or known ▪ The crime was committed ***under (the) cover of darkness/night***. [=when it was dark; at night] ▪ an official speaking to a reporter ***under cover of ano-***

nymity [=with the understanding that the reporter would not reveal the official's name]

7 [*count*] : something that is not what it seems to be but is actually used to hide something else — usually singular ▪ The business was a *cover* for a criminal gang. ▪ Her job as a consultant was just a *cover* for her true identity as a secret agent. ▪ He acts tough, but that's just a *cover*. He's a real softy underneath. ✧ A person who is ***under cover*** has his or her true identity hidden. The phrase usually describes a person (such as a police officer) who pretends to be someone else in order to get information. ▪ The policeman went *under cover* to collect more evidence. ▪ The agent was working *under cover*. ✧ To ***blow someone's cover*** is to reveal someone's true identity. ▪ The agent posed as a consultant until someone *blew her cover*. — see also UNDERCOVER

8 [*count*] : a recording or performance of a song that was previously recorded by someone else ▪ a *cover* (version) of a popular song ▪ a ***cover band*** [=a band that plays songs previously recorded by other performers]

9 [*count*] *informal* : COVER CHARGE ▪ The nightclub has a $5 *cover*.

10 [*noncount*] *Brit* : insurance coverage ▪ a policy that provides *cover* [=(*US*) *coverage*] for loss by fire

11 [*noncount*] : protection from danger, an attack, etc. ▪ They had to land in enemy territory without any ***air cover*** [=protection by military airplanes] ▪ traveling with the benefit of ***diplomatic cover*** [=the special protection that is given to a diplomat]

12 [*noncount*] *Brit* : work done by someone other than the person who usually does it ▪ A small crew will provide emergency *cover* during the strike.

under separate cover : in a separate envelope ▪ The manuscript is being sent to you *under separate cover*.

cov•er•age /ˈkʌvərɪʤ/ *noun, pl* **-ag•es**

1 [*noncount*] : the activity of reporting about an event or subject in newspapers, on television news programs, etc. ▪ The issue is not getting much *coverage* in the mainstream press. ▪ There was massive/extensive TV *coverage* of the funeral. ▪ The network will have ***live coverage*** of the game. [=it will broadcast the game as it is happening]

2 [*noncount*] : discussion of a subject in a book, class, etc. ▪ For more complete *coverage* of this issue, see Chapter Six. ▪ The book gives full *coverage* to the history of the word.

3 *US* **a** [*noncount*] : the financial protection that is provided by an insurance policy ▪ She has no insurance *coverage*. [=she does not have insurance] ▪ affordable health/medical *coverage* [=insurance that will pay for medical care; health insurance] ▪ My health insurance company has denied *coverage* for the treatment. [=it will not pay the cost of the treatment] **b** [*count*] : something that an insurance company will pay for : something that is covered by an insurance policy ▪ Fire/liability insurance *coverages* varied. ▪ optional/additional *coverages*

4 *chiefly US, sports* : the act of guarding an opponent as part of your team's effort to prevent the other team from scoring : the act of covering an opponent [*noncount*] He was responsible for *coverage* of the tight end. [*count*] The team uses a variety of defensive *coverages*.

5 [*noncount*] — used to describe how much of an area or surface is covered by something ▪ Heavy cloud *coverage* is expected over the lake. ▪ uniform paint *coverage* ▪ There is no cell phone *coverage* in this valley. [=cell phone service is not available]

cov•er•all /ˈkʌvəˌɹɑːl/ *noun, pl* **-alls** [*count*] *US* : a piece of clothing that is worn over other clothes to protect them — usually plural ▪ The mechanic was dressed in (a pair of) *coveralls*. [=(*Brit*) *overalls*]

cover charge *noun, pl* ~ **charges** [*count*] : an amount of money that must be paid to go into a nightclub or restaurant in addition to the charge for food and drink ▪ The nightclub has a $5 *cover charge*.

covered *adj*

1 : having a cover or lid ▪ a *covered* dish/container/jar/bowl

2 a : having a layer of something specified on top — usually used in combination ▪ snow-*covered* hills ▪ sugar-*covered* cookies **b** : having something specified over much or all of the surface — usually used in combination ▪ a graffiti-*covered* wall ▪ chocolate-*covered* pretzels

3 : having a roof ▪ a *covered* walkway/entrance/porch ▪ a *covered* bridge — see also COVERED WAGON

4 *US, insurance* : paid for by an insurance policy ▪ *covered* medical expenses

covered wagon *noun, pl* ~ **-ons** [*count*] : a large wagon with a rounded top made of heavy cloth that was used in the past by people traveling to the western parts of North America

cover girl *noun, pl* ~ **girls** [*count*] : an attractive young woman whose picture is on the front of a magazine

cov•er•ing /ˈkʌvərɪŋ/ *noun, pl* **-ings** [*count*] : an object or substance that goes over or on top of something especially in order to hide or protect it ▪ The ground was hidden under a *covering* [=*cover*] of snow. ▪ floor/wall/window *coverings*

cov•er•let /ˈkʌvələt/ *noun, pl* **-lets** [*count*] : a decorative cover for a bed : BEDSPREAD

cover letter *noun, pl* ~ **-ters** [*count*] *US* : a letter that is sent with something to explain the reason for it or to give more information about it ▪ Always include a *cover letter* with your résumé. — called also (*Brit*) *covering letter*

cover story *noun, pl* ~ **-ries** [*count*] : an important story or article that is the main subject shown on the cover of a magazine ▪ The magazine recently did/had a *cover story* on/about diabetes.

co•vert /ˈkoʊvɚt/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : made, shown, or done in a way that is not easily seen or noticed : secret or hidden ▪ a *covert* glance/look ▪ He has taken part in a number of *covert* military operations. ▪ spy agencies taking *covert* action — opposite OVERT

– cov•ert•ly *adv* **– cov•ert•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

cov•er–up /ˈkʌvɚˌʌp/ *noun, pl* **-ups** [*count*]

1 : a planned effort to hide a dishonest, immoral, or illegal act or situation ▪ The book describes the burglary and its ensuing *cover-up*. ▪ The report exposes an attempted *cover-up* of the accident.

2 : an action or a way of behaving that is meant to prevent people from knowing about something ▪ His brash manner is just a *cover-up* for his insecurity. — see also *cover up* at [1]COVER

cov•et /ˈkʌvət/ *verb* **-ets**; **-et•ed**; **-et•ing** [+ *obj*] : to want (something that you do not have) very much ▪ All his life he has *coveted* [=*craved, desired*] success. ▪ a *coveted* prize ▪ His religion warns against *coveting* material goods.

cov•et•ous /ˈkʌvətəs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* : feeling or showing a very strong desire for something that you do not have and especially for something that belongs to someone else ▪ The expensive car drew many *covetous* looks. ▪ They were *covetous* of his success. [=they envied his success]

– cov•et•ous•ly *adv* ▪ They eyed her jewelry *covetously*.

– cov•et•ous•ness *noun* [*noncount*]

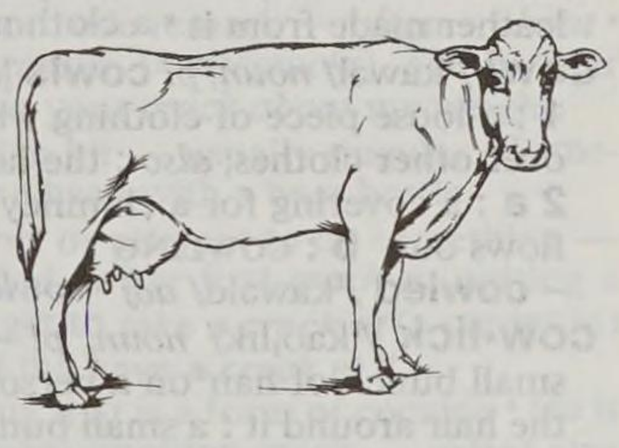
cov•ey /ˈkʌvi/ *noun, pl* **-eys** [*count*]

1 : a small flock of birds ▪ a *covey* of quail

2 : a small group of people or things ▪ A *covey* of schoolchildren approached. ▪ A *covey* of reporters came to the event.

[1]cow /ˈkaʊ/ *noun, pl* **cows** [*count*]

1 a : a large animal that is raised by people for milk or meat usually on a farm ▪ horses, chickens, and *cows*; *especially* : the adult female of this animal ▪ The *cows* need to be milked twice a day. — compare BULL, CALF **b** : an adult female of some other large animals (such as elephants, whales, and seals)



COW

2 *chiefly Brit slang, offensive* : a woman who is stupid or annoying ▪ You stupid *cow*!

have a cow *slang* : to become very angry, upset, etc. ▪ *Don't have a cow*! I said I'd take care of the problem and I will.

holy cow *informal* — used as an interjection to express surprise or excitement ▪ *Holy cow*! That car almost ran into us!

till/until the cows come home *informal* : for a very long time ▪ They'll be arguing about this *till the cows come home*.

– see also CASH COW, SACRED COW

[2]cow *verb* **cows**; **cowed**; **cow•ing** [+ *obj*] : to make (someone) too afraid to do something : INTIMIDATE ▪ I refuse to be *cowed* by their threats. ▪ They were *cowed* into silence by threats. [=they did not complain, publicly say anything, etc., because they had been threatened]

cow•ard /ˈkawɚd/ *noun, pl* **-ards** [*count*] : someone who is too afraid to do what is right or expected : someone who is not at all brave or courageous ▪ a proven *coward* who had deserted his troops

cow•ard•ice /ˈkawə·dəs/ *noun* [*noncount*] : fear that makes you unable to do what is right or expected : lack of courage ▪ soldiers accused of *cowardice* ▪ acts of *cowardice*

cow•ard•ly /ˈkawə·dli/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : afraid in a way that makes you unable to do what is right or expected : lacking courage ▪ He insisted on avoiding a *cowardly* retreat. ▪ She made a *cowardly* decision to go along with the group. ▪ a *cowardly* thief ▪ a *cowardly* attack from behind
– **cow•ard•li•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

cow•bell /ˈkaʊˌbɛl/ *noun, pl* **-bells** [*count*] : a bell that you hang around the neck of a cow so that you can tell where the cow is

cow•bird /ˈkaʊˌbə·d/ *noun, pl* **-birds** [*count*] : a brown and black North American bird that lays its eggs in the nests of other birds

[1]cow•boy /ˈkaʊˌboɪ/ *noun, pl* **-boys** [*count*]
1 : a man who rides a horse and whose job is to take care of cows or horses especially in the western U.S. ▪ a movie about *cowboys* in the old West ▪ He worked for several years as a *cowboy* on a ranch in Texas.
2 : a man who performs in a rodeo
3 *usually disapproving* : someone who has qualities that are commonly associated with the cowboys in movies; *especially* : someone who does things that other people consider foolish and dangerous ▪ political *cowboys* ▪ We've got a bunch of risk-taking *cowboys* running this project. — sometimes used before another noun ▪ *cowboy* diplomacy

[2]cowboy *verb* **-boys**; **-boyed**; **-boy•ing** [*no obj*] *US* : to work as a cowboy ▪ He *cowboyed* in Texas and Oklahoma.

cowboy boot *noun, pl* ~ **boots** [*count*] : a type of boot that has a thick heel and often a decorative design on the upper part and that is worn especially by cowboys and cowgirls — see picture at SHOE

cowboy hat *noun, pl* ~ **hats** [*count*] : a type of soft hat that has a wide brim and that is worn especially by cowboys and cowgirls — see picture at HAT

cow•er /ˈkawə/ *verb* **-ers**; **-ered**; **-er•ing** [*no obj*] : to move back or bend your body down because you are afraid ▪ They *cowered* at the sight of the gun. ▪ She was *cowering* in the closet. ▪ I *cowered* behind the door. ▪ *cowering* before a bully

cow•girl /ˈkaʊˌgə·l/ *noun, pl* **-girls** [*count*]
1 : a woman who rides a horse and whose job is to take care of cows or horses especially in the western U.S.
2 : a girl or woman who performs in a rodeo

cow•hand /ˈkaʊˌhænd/ *noun, pl* **-hands** [*count*] : [1]COWBOY 1

cow•herd /ˈkaʊˌhə·d/ *noun, pl* **-herds** [*count*] : a person whose job is to take care of cows especially in the western U.S.

cow•hide /ˈkaʊˌhaɪd/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the skin of a cow or leather made from it ▪ a cloth made of *cowhide*

cowl /ˈkawəl/ *noun, pl* **cowls** [*count*]
1 : a loose piece of clothing with a hood that a monk wears over other clothes; *also* : the hood itself
2 a : a covering for a chimney that controls the way smoke flows out **b** : COWLING
– **cowled** /ˈkawəld/ *adj* ▪ *cowled* monks

cow•lick /ˈkaʊˌlɪk/ *noun, pl* **-licks** [*count*] *chiefly US* : a small bunch of hair on a person's head that sticks up above the hair around it : a small bunch of hair that will not lie flat

cowl•ing /ˈkaʊlɪŋ/ *noun, pl* **-ings** [*count*] : a metal covering for the engine of an airplane

co•work•er /ˈkoʊˌwə·kə/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a person who works at the place where you work : someone you work with

cow•pat /ˈkaʊˌpæt/ *noun, pl* **-pats** [*count*] *chiefly Brit* : COW PIE

cow•pea /ˈkaʊˌpi:/ *noun, pl* **-peas** [*count*] *chiefly US* : BLACK-EYED PEA

cow pie *noun, pl* ~ **pies** [*count*] *chiefly US* : a piece of solid waste from a cow

cow•poke /ˈkaʊˌpoʊk/ *noun, pl* **-pokes** [*count*] *US, informal* : [1]COWBOY 1 ▪ a movie about a couple of old *cowpokes*

cow•punch•er /ˈkaʊˌpʌnʧə/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *informal + old-fashioned* : [1]COWBOY 1

cow•rie *also* **cow•ry** /ˈkaʊri/ *noun, pl* **cow•ries** [*count*]
1 : a small snail that is found in warm seas
2 : the shiny and often brightly colored shell of the cowrie ✧ Cowrie shells have been used as money in Africa and other places.

cow•shed /ˈkaʊˌʃɛd/ *noun, pl* **-sheds** [*count*] : a building where cows are kept

cow•slip /ˈkaʊˌslɪp/ *noun, pl* **-slips** [*count*] : a wild plant with small yellow flowers that smell sweet

cox /ˈkɑ:ks/ *noun, pl* **cox•es** [*count*] : a person who steers a rowing boat in races
– **cox** *verb* **coxes**; **coxed**; **cox•ing** [+ *obj*] I'm not sure who will be *coxing* the boat in this race. [*no obj*] He *coxes* for the racing crew.

cox•swain /ˈkɑ:ksən/ *noun, pl* **-swains** [*count*]
1 : a person who is in charge of and usually steers a boat (such as a ship's lifeboat)
2 : COX

coy /ˈkoɪ/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : having a shy or sweetly innocent quality that is often intended to be attractive or to get attention ▪ a *coy* flirt ▪ I didn't like her *coy* manner. ▪ a *coy* glance/smile
2 : not telling or revealing all the information that could be revealed ▪ He gave a *coy* answer. — often + *about* ▪ Both companies are being *coy about* the merger deal.
play coy *US* : to avoid giving a direct or complete answer ▪ When asked about his next book, he *played coy*.
– **coy•ly** *adv* ▪ She smiled *coyly*. ▪ She *coyly* refused to say anything more about it. – **coy•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

coy•ote /kaɪˈoʊti/ *noun, pl* **coy•ot•es** *or* **coyote** [*count*] : a small wild animal that is related to dogs and wolves and that lives in North America — see picture at WOLF

[1]co•zy (*US*) *or Brit* **co•sy** /ˈkoʊzi/ *adj* **co•zi•er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~]
1 a : small, comfortable, and warm ▪ a *cozy* restaurant/cottage ▪ The room was warm and *cozy*. — sometimes used in a joking or ironic way to describe a place that is not pleasant or comfortable ▪ She glanced around the cramped apartment and said, "Well, isn't this *cozy*?" **b** : friendly and pleasant ▪ We had a *cozy* dinner with the whole family. ▪ I spent a *cozy* evening reading in front of the fire. ▪ a *cozy* chat
2 *often disapproving* : suggesting or showing a closeness between two people, groups, businesses, etc. : very close ▪ He claims that there is a *cozy* arrangement/relationship between the police and the drug dealers. — often + *with* ▪ His political opponents accuse him of getting/being too *cozy with* powerful companies.
– **co•zi•ly** (*US*) *or Brit* **co•si•ly** /ˈkoʊzəli/ *adv* ▪ The children were snuggled *cozily* in their beds. – **co•zi•ness** (*US*) *or Brit* **co•si•ness** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ We were charmed by the *coziness* of the little cottage.

[2]cozy (*US*) *or Brit* **cosy** *noun, pl* **-zies** [*count*] : a cloth cover that is placed over a teapot to keep the tea hot ▪ a tea *cozy*

[3]cozy (*US*) *or Brit* **cosy** *verb* **-zies**; **-zied**; **-zy•ing**
cozy up [*phrasal verb*] *informal* : to become or try to become friendly with someone in order to get help or some advantage — usually + *to* ▪ He has been *cozying up to* the boss lately in hopes of getting a promotion.

CPA *abbr* certified public accountant

CPI *abbr* consumer price index

Cpl. *abbr* corporal ▪ *Cpl.* Jones

CPR /ˌsi:ˌpi:ˈɑə/ *noun* [*noncount*] *medical* : a way of trying to save the life of someone who has stopped breathing and whose heart has stopped beating ▪ They pulled her out of the swimming pool and began *CPR*. ✧ *CPR* is an abbreviation for "cardiopulmonary resuscitation."

Cpt. *abbr* captain ▪ *Cpt.* Smith

CPU /ˌsi:ˌpi:ˈju:/ *noun, pl* **CPUs** [*count*] *computers* : the part of a computer system that performs the computer's main functions and controls the other parts of the system — called also *processor* ✧ *CPU* is an abbreviation for "central processing unit."

[1]crab /ˈkræb/ *noun, pl* **crabs**
1 a [*count*] : a sea animal that has a hard shell, eight legs, and two large claws — see color picture on page C8; see also HERMIT CRAB, KING CRAB **b** [*noncount*] : the meat of a crab eaten as food ▪ We had *crab* for dinner.
2 ***crabs*** [*plural*] *medical* : a medical problem in which very small insects (called lice) live in the hair surrounding a person's sexual organs
3 [*count*] *US, informal* : an unhappy person who complains a lot : GROUCH ▪ I don't know why she's been such a *crab* lately.

[2]crab *verb* **crabs**; **crabbed**; **crab•bing** [*no obj*]
1 : to catch or try to catch crabs ▪ We *crabbed* in the bay on Saturday.
2 *US, informal* : to complain about something in a way that

annoys people ▪ He's been *crabbing* about the weather all afternoon.

– **crabbing** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ We ***went crabbing*** in the bay on Saturday. ▪ I'm tired of listening to his *crabbing* about the weather.

crab apple *noun, pl* ~ **apples** [*count*] : a small, sour apple or the kind of tree that produces it

crab•bed /ˈkræbəd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : difficult to read or understand ▪ *crabbed* handwriting
2 : very negative : full of unhappy ideas ▪ Her *crabbed* [=*morose*] view of human nature makes it hard for her to trust people.

crab•by /ˈkræbi/ *adj* **crab•bi•er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~] *informal* : unhappy and tending to complain a lot : GROUCHY ▪ She gets *crabby* if she doesn't get enough sleep. ▪ a *crabby* old man

crab•grass /ˈkræbˌgræs, *Brit* ˈkræbˌgrɑːs/ *noun* [*noncount*] *US* : a thick type of grass that often grows and spreads quickly in places where it is not wanted

crab•meat /ˈkræbˌmiːt/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the meat of a crab eaten as food ▪ mushrooms stuffed with *crabmeat*

[1]crack /ˈkræk/ *verb* **cracks**; **cracked**; **crack•ing**
1 : to break (something) so that there are lines in its surface but it is usually not separated into pieces [+ *obj*] The hailstones were big enough to *crack* some windows. ▪ He *cracked* his collarbone in a skiing accident. [*no obj*] The mirror/glass *cracked* when she dropped it. ▪ A piece of the statue *cracked* off. [=broke off]
2 [+ *obj*] : to hit or press (something) so hard that it breaks apart or opens suddenly ▪ Workers *cracked* the large rock into three pieces so it could be moved. ▪ The bird *cracked* the seed on a tree branch. ▪ a tool used for *cracking* nuts ▪ He ***cracked open*** the eggs.
3 [+ *obj*] : to hit (someone or something) hard and usually suddenly ▪ Someone *cracked* him over the head with a beer bottle. ▪ The baby *cracked* her chin pretty hard when she fell. ▪ He fell and *cracked* his elbow on/against the ice.
4 [+ *obj*] **a** : to open (a bottle or can) for drinking — usually + *open* ▪ He *cracked open* a beer. **b** : to open (a book) for studying or reading ▪ He hardly *cracked* a book his whole first semester of college. — usually + *open* ▪ It's a perfect day to relax and *crack open* a good book.
5 [+ *obj*] : to open (a safe) illegally without having a key, combination, etc. ▪ Any good thief could *crack* this safe.
6 [+ *obj*] **a** : to find an answer or solution to (something) ▪ Scientists have *cracked* [=*solved*] an ancient mystery using new technology. ▪ The police finally *cracked* [=*broke*] the case and arrested the murderer. **b** : to find the meaning of (a secret code) ▪ He was able to *crack* [=*break*] the enemy's secret code.
7 [+ *obj*] : to open (something, such as a door or window) a small amount — usually + *open* ▪ She *cracked open* the door and peeked into the room.
8 : to cause (something) to make a sudden loud sound [+ *obj*] When the sled dogs heard her *crack* the whip, they broke into a run. ▪ His habit of *cracking* his knuckles bothered her. [*no obj*] The sled dogs are trained to run when they hear the whip *crack*. — see also CRACK THE WHIP (below)
9 [*no obj*] *of a voice* : to change sharply in tone or pitch especially because of strong emotion ▪ Her voice *cracked* (with emotion) as she told them what had happened.
10 [+ *obj*] *informal* : to tell (a joke) ▪ The two of them *crack* jokes all the time. = The two of them are always *cracking* jokes.
11 [*no obj*] : to lose strength or the ability to resist or fight ▪ After hours of questioning by the police, the suspect finally *cracked*. [=finally told the police what they wanted to know] — often + *under* ▪ He *cracked under* the pressure/stress of the job.

a tough/hard nut to crack see NUT

crack a smile : to smile ▪ I tried to get him to laugh, but he never even *cracked a smile*.

crack down [*phrasal verb*] : to start to be strict about punishing people for doing something that is illegal or not allowed : to enforce a law or rule more strictly ▪ People have been violating this law for years, and now the government is finally starting to *crack down*. — often + *on* ▪ Authorities are *cracking down on* companies that pollute. — see also CRACKDOWN

crack into [*phrasal verb*] ***crack into (something)*** *informal* : to enter or get started in (something, such as a profession) ▪ Its not easy to *crack into* [=*break into*] professional football.

crack the whip : to force people to work very hard ▪ The team needs a coach who isn't afraid to *crack the whip*.

crack up [*phrasal verb*] *informal* **1** ***crack up or crack (someone) up or crack up (someone)*** : to begin laughing or cause (someone) to begin laughing suddenly and in a way that is difficult to control ▪ When we saw the picture, we both *cracked up*. ▪ That joke really *cracks* me *up*. [=I think that joke is very funny] **2** : to become mentally ill : to lose control of your thoughts and emotions so that you cannot continue to live in a normal way ▪ The stress was getting worse, and she felt herself *cracking up*. [=going crazy] **3** ***crack up or crack up (something) also crack (something) up*** *US, informal* : to damage (a vehicle) by crashing ▪ I *cracked up* [=*crashed*] on a curve in the road. ▪ I *cracked up* [=*crashed*] the car. — see also CRACK-UP **4** ✧ Something that is ***what/all/everything (etc.) it's cracked up to be*** is as good as people say it is. ▪ Is the movie really *all it's cracked up to be*? = Is it really *as good as it's cracked up to be*? This phrase is usually used in negative statements. ▪ The new restaurant *is not all it's cracked up to be*. When we went, the service was awful and our food was cold.

crack wise *US, informal* : to say something that is funny and smart : to make a wisecrack ▪ She's always *cracking wise*.

get cracking *informal* : to start doing something ▪ You ought to *get cracking* [=*get going; get moving*] on that assignment. [=you should start working on that assignment right away]

[2]crack *noun, pl* **cracks**
1 [*count*] : a thin line in the surface of something that is broken but not separated into pieces ▪ The *crack* runs all the way from the top of the wall to the bottom. ▪ an old patio with grass growing up through the *cracks* ▪ The vase has a few fine *cracks*, but it is still usable. — often + *in* ▪ There were *cracks in* the ice. ▪ There is a *crack in* the mirror/windshield/glass. ▪ Grass is growing up through the *cracks in* the old patio. — see also *crack in someone's or something's armor* at ARMOR
2 [*count*] : a very narrow space or opening between two things or two parts of something ▪ I could see them through the *crack* in the doorway. ▪ Light came through the *cracks* in the walls of the barn. ▪ Could you please open the window ***a crack***? [=open it slightly] It's getting hot in here.
3 [*count*] : a sudden loud, sharp sound — usually singular ▪ We heard a loud *crack* as the ice broke. ▪ The horse was frightened by the *crack* of the whip. ▪ a *crack* of thunder
4 [*count*] : a brief change in the sound of a person's voice especially because of strong emotion — usually singular ▪ There was a *crack* in her voice as she told us her story.
5 [*count*] : a weakness or problem ▪ Your theory/argument has a few *cracks*. — often + *in* ▪ The *cracks in* their relationship were becoming evident.
6 [*count*] *informal* : a joke or rude remark — often + *about* ▪ They're always making *cracks* [=*wisecracks*] *about* their teacher. ▪ I didn't appreciate your *crack about* my weight.
7 [*count*] : a hard and sudden hit — usually singular ▪ Someone gave him a *crack* on the head with a beer bottle.
8 [*count*] *informal* : an effort or attempt to do something — usually + *at* ▪ She succeeded in her first *crack at* writing a novel. ▪ If he's lucky, he'll get to ***take a crack at*** (a career in) professional baseball. ▪ Let me ***have a crack at*** it.
9 [*noncount*] : an illegal drug that is a form of cocaine ▪ He is addicted to *crack*. ▪ They were smoking *crack*. — called also *crack cocaine*

a fair crack of the whip *Brit, informal* ✧ If you are given *a fair crack of the whip*, you are given the same chance as other people to do something. ▪ They might have succeeded if they'd been given *a fair crack of the whip*.

at the crack of dawn : very early in the morning : at dawn ▪ We got up *at the crack of dawn* to go fishing.

fall through/between the cracks *also* ***slip through/between the cracks*** : to fail to be noticed or included with others ▪ Parents are concerned that children who have trouble in school will *fall through the cracks* in the school system. [=will not be given the help they need; will graduate without anyone noticing that they are unable to do the work] ▪ The program is meant to help workers who may have *slipped through the cracks* [=who may have not been included in other programs] because of their age.

[3]crack *adj, always used before a noun* : very good : of excellent quality or ability ▪ *crack* troops ▪ The company has a *crack* sales force. ▪ I hear she's become a ***crack shot***. [=a person who is very good at shooting a gun]

crack baby *noun, pl* ~ **-bies** [*count*] *chiefly US* : a baby who is not strong and healthy at birth and whose mother used crack cocaine while she was pregnant

crack·brained /ˈkrækˈbreɪnd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *informal* : very silly or foolish ▪ a *crackbrained* artist ▪ They've devised some *crackbrained* [=*harebrained, crazy*] scheme.

crack cocaine *noun* [*noncount*] : ²CRACK 9

crack·down /ˈkrækˌdaʊn/ *noun, pl* **-downs** [*count*] : a serious attempt to punish people for doing something that is not allowed : an increased effort to enforce a law or rule ▪ Companies that pollute are the target of a new *crackdown*. — often + *on* ▪ There's been a federal *crackdown on* smuggling in recent years. — see also *crack down* at ¹CRACK

cracked /ˈkrækt/ *adj*

1 : having a crack or many cracks : having a damaged surface but usually not broken into pieces ▪ a *cracked* windshield ▪ The vase is *cracked* but it can still hold water.

2 : having deep lines in the surface ▪ the *cracked* leather of the old chair ▪ His hands were sore and *cracked* from working long hours in the cold. ▪ Her lips are dried and *cracked*.

3 : broken into pieces ▪ *cracked* wheat/pepper/corn

4 *not used before a noun, informal* : CRAZY ▪ Don't pay any attention to her. She's a little *cracked*.

crack·er /ˈkrækɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

1 : a dry, thin baked food that is made of flour and water and is often eaten with cheese ▪ a plate of cheese and *crackers* — see also ANIMAL CRACKER, GRAHAM CRACKER, OYSTER CRACKER, SODA CRACKER

2 : a person who can crack something (such as a safe or a secret code) ▪ a safe *cracker* [=a criminal who can opens a safe illegally] ▪ a code *cracker*

3 *chiefly Brit* : a colorful paper tube that holds small gifts and that opens with a loud noise when the ends are pulled ✧ Crackers are commonly used in Britain at Christmas. ▪ a Christmas *cracker*

4 *Brit, informal* : a very good, amusing, or attractive person or thing ▪ The match should be real *cracker*. ▪ The guitarist played a *cracker* of a solo.

5 *US, informal + offensive* : a poor usually Southern white person

crack·er·jack /ˈkrækɚˌʤæk/ *adj, always used before a noun, US, informal* : excellent or great ▪ They did a *crackerjack* job.

crack·ers /ˈkrækɚz/ *adj, not used before a noun, chiefly Brit, informal* : CRAZY ▪ This new computer program is driving me *crackers*! ▪ I think he's gone a little *crackers*.

crack·head /ˈkrækˌhɛd/ *noun, pl* **-heads** [*count*] *informal* : a person who smokes the illegal drug crack

crack house *noun, pl* ~ **houses** [*count*] : a house or apartment where the illegal drug crack is made, used, or sold

crack·ing /ˈkrækɪŋ/ *adj, always used before a noun, Brit, informal* : very good or impressive ▪ I think it's a *cracking* story. ▪ The horses set off at a *cracking* [=very fast] pace around the track.

– **cracking** *adv, always used before a noun, Brit, informal* ▪ I think it's a *cracking* good story.

crack·le /ˈkrækəl/ *verb* **crack·les**; **crack·led**; **crack·ling** [*no obj*] : to make a series of short, sharp noises ▪ The logs *crackled* in the fire. ▪ The leaves *crackled* under our feet. ▪ a *crackling* fire — often used figuratively ▪ The air *crackled* [=*sparkled*] with excitement as we prepared for the festival.

– **crackle** *noun, pl* **crackles** [*count*] ▪ You could hear the *crackle* of distant gunfire.

crackling *noun, pl* **-lings**

1 [*count*] : a series of short, sharp noises — usually singular ▪ We heard a *crackling* of leaves behind us.

2 [*count, noncount*] : the crisp skin of a roasted animal (such as a pig) eaten as food ▪ pork/duck *cracklings*

crack·ly /ˈkrækəli/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : having or making a series of short, sharp noises ▪ a *crackly* voice ▪ the *crackly* sound of the old record

2 *US* : thin and easily cracked ▪ The bread has a *crackly* [=*crisp*] crust.

crack·pot /ˈkrækˌpɑːt/ *noun, pl* **-pots** [*count*] *informal* : a person who is crazy or very strange ▪ Some *crackpot* in a clown suit is out there directing traffic.

– **crackpot** *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ a *crackpot* philosophy/idea

crack–up /ˈkrækˌʌp/ *noun, pl* **-ups** [*count*] *US, informal*

1 : an accident in which a vehicle is badly damaged ▪ She got into a *crack-up* on her way back from the city.

2 : NERVOUS BREAKDOWN ▪ He had a *crack-up* in his late 50s and never quite recovered. — see also *crack up* at ¹CRACK

¹cra·dle /ˈkreɪdl/ *noun, pl* **cra·dles** [*count*]

1 : a bed for a baby that is usually designed to rock back and forth when pushed gently ▪ She rocked the *cradle*. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ He learned to play chess when he was barely out of the *cradle*. [=when he was very young]

2 *formal* : the place where something begins — usually singular; usually + *of* ▪ the *cradle of* civilization/liberty

3 : something that is used to hold or support something else ▪ She placed the phone back on its *cradle*. ▪ A number of ships were resting in their *cradles* in the shipyard.

4 *Brit* : a platform designed to move up and down the sides of a building so that workers can paint, clean, etc.

from (the) cradle to (the) grave : from the beginning until the end of life ▪ He led a life of hardship *from the cradle to the grave*. ▪ The book describes her life *from cradle to grave*.

rob the cradle *US, informal* : to date or marry someone who is much younger than you ▪ His friends accused him of *robbing the cradle* when they saw how young his girlfriend was.

– see also CAT'S CRADLE

²cradle *verb* **cra·dles**; **cra·dled**; **cra·dling** [+ *obj*] : to hold (something or someone) gently in your arms or hands ▪ He *cradled* her face in his hands. ▪ She was *cradling* the injured man's head in her arms. ▪ *cradle* a baby

¹craft /ˈkræft, *Brit* ˈkrɑːft/ *noun, pl* **crafts**

1 [*count*] : an activity that involves making something in a skillful way by using your hands ▪ The potter has been studying his *craft* [=*handicraft*] for two decades. ▪ the *craft* of pottery/basketry

2 [*count*] : a job or activity that requires special skill ▪ the *craft* of songwriting/acting ▪ a photographer's *craft*

3 ***crafts*** [*plural*] : objects made by skillful use of the hands ▪ The store sells *crafts* [=*handicrafts*] from around the world. ▪ There's a ***crafts fair*** [=an event at which crafts are sold] at the school this Saturday. — see also ARTS AND CRAFTS

4 *pl* ***craft*** [*count*] **a** : a usually small boat ▪ a fishing *craft* ▪ We saw many fishing boats and ***pleasure craft*** [=boats used for pleasure rather than work] on the bay. **b** : an airplane, helicopter, or spacecraft ▪ The *craft* landed safely despite engine trouble. — see also HOVERCRAFT, LANDING CRAFT

²craft *verb* **crafts**; **craft·ed**; **craft·ing** [+ *obj*] : to make or produce (something) with care or skill ▪ The furniture is *crafted* from bamboo. ▪ He is *crafting* a new sculpture. ▪ beautifully *crafted* wine/shoes/stories ▪ She *crafted* a strategy to boost the company's earnings.

– **craft·er** *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] ▪ a *crafter* of arguments/fiction

crafts·man /ˈkræftsmən, *Brit* ˈkrɑːftsmən/ *noun, pl* **-men** /-mən/ [*count*]

1 : a person (especially a man) who makes beautiful objects by hand ▪ Skilled *craftsmen* carved the enormous mantel. ▪ He is a master *craftsman* who works with marble.

2 : a person (especially a man) who is very skilled at doing something ▪ As a writer/photographer/musician, he has developed into a true *craftsman*.

– **crafts·man·like** /ˈkræftsmənˌlaɪk, *Brit* ˈkrɑːftsmənˌlaɪk/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ his *craftsmanlike* approach to songwriting

crafts·man·ship /ˈkræftsmənˌʃɪp, *Brit* ˈkrɑːftsmənˌʃɪp/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 : skillful work ▪ The table is a fine piece of *craftsmanship*. ▪ The poem is a fine example of literary *craftsmanship*.

2 : the quality of something made with great skill ▪ The fine *craftsmanship* of the table is remarkable. ▪ Critics have admired the *craftsmanship* of her poetry.

crafts·per·son /ˈkræftsˌpɚsn̩, *Brit* ˈkrɑːftsˌpɜːsn̩/ *noun, pl* **-people** [*count*] : a person who makes beautiful objects by hand : a craftsman or craftswoman

crafts·wom·an /ˈkræftsˌwʊmən, *Brit* ˈkrɑːftsˌwʊmən/ *noun, pl* **-wom·en** /-ˌwɪmən/ [*count*] : a woman who makes beautiful objects by hand

crafty /ˈkræfti, *Brit* ˈkrɑːfti/ *adj* **craft·i·er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~] : clever in usually a deceptive or dishonest way ▪ a *crafty* schemer/plotter ▪ a *crafty* scheme

– **craft·i·ly** /ˈkræftəli, *Brit* ˈkrɑːftəli/ *adv* ▪ a *craftily* designed plan – **craft·i·ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

crag /ˈkræg/ *noun, pl* **crags** [*count*] : a high and very steep area of rock on a mountain or cliff ▪ The goat stood on the mountain *crag*.

crag·gy /ˈkrægi/ *adj* **craggier**; **-est**

1 : having many crags ▪ a *craggy* island
2 : rough in a way that suggests strength ▪ a famous actor who is known for his *craggy* good looks ▪ his white hair and *craggy* face ▪ a *craggy* voice

[1]cram /ˈkræm/ *verb* **crams**; **crammed**; **cram·ming**
1 [+ *obj*] : to fill (something) so that there is no room for anything else : to fill (something) completely ▪ He *crammed* the suitcase with his clothes. ▪ Before the trip I *crammed* my head with information about Spain. ▪ Protesters *crammed* the streets. — often used as *(be) crammed* ▪ With so many guests, the house *was* really *crammed*. [=*packed*] ▪ The little store *is crammed* full of books. ▪ The museum felt *crammed* with statues. ▪ My schedule *is* totally *crammed* [=*full*] this week. Can we meet next week?
2 [+ *obj*] **a** : to push or force (someone or something) into a space that is tight or crowded — usually + *into* or *in* ▪ He tried to *cram* all his clothes *in/into* one suitcase. ▪ We can *cram* [=*pack, squeeze*] six people *into* my car. ▪ The instructor *crammed* a lot of information *into* one week. — see also CRAM IN (below) **b** [*no obj*] : to push or force yourself into a space that is tight or crowded — usually + *into* ▪ We all *crammed into* one car. ▪ Thousands of people *crammed into* the stadium.
3 a [*no obj*] : to prepare for a test, exam, etc., by learning a lot of information quickly — usually + *for* ▪ He's *cramming for* the exam tomorrow. **b** [+ *obj*] *chiefly Brit* : to prepare (someone) for a test, exam, etc., by teaching a lot of information quickly — usually + *for* ▪ The class *crams* students *for* the exam.
cram in [*phrasal verb*] ***cram in (someone or something)*** *or* ***cram (someone or something) in*** : to make a special effort to meet with (someone) or to do (something) although you are very busy ▪ I can *cram* you *in* this afternoon. ▪ We *crammed in* as much sightseeing as possible on our trip to New York City.

[2]cram /ˈkræm/ *noun, pl* **crams** [*count*] *US* : a quick period of study in order to learn a lot of information quickly for a test, exam, etc. — usually used before another noun ▪ We're having a ***cram session*** tonight to prepare for tomorrow's test. ▪ She's taking a ***cram course***. ✧ A ***cram school*** is a school designed to help students prepare for exams and get into better schools. ▪ Like many Japanese students, she attends a *cram school* in the evening.

cram·mer /ˈkræmɚ/ *noun, pl* **-mers** [*count*]
1 *US* : a person who prepares for a test, exam, etc. by learning a lot of information quickly : a person who crams for a test ▪ a group of last-minute *crammers*
2 *Brit* : a special school or book that prepares people for a test, exam, etc., by teaching a lot of information quickly

[1]cramp /ˈkræmp/ *noun, pl* **cramps**
1 : a sudden painful tightening of muscle in a part of the body [*count*] (*US*) ▪ I got a *cramp* in my leg while running. [*noncount*] (*Brit*) ▪ I got *cramp* in my leg while running. — see also WRITER'S CRAMP
2 *cramps* [*plural*] *chiefly US* : sharp pains in the stomach and the area near it especially because of menstruation ▪ She gets bad *cramps* every month.
– crampy *adj* ▪ *crampy* abdominal pain

[2]cramp *verb* **cramps**; **cramped**; **cramp·ing**
1 a [+ *obj*] : to cause (a part of the body) to feel pain because of tight muscles : to cause a cramp in (your hand, foot, etc.) ▪ Writing for such a long time may *cramp* your hand. **b** [*no obj*] : to have a sudden painful tightening of muscles : to experience a cramp or cramps ▪ His leg was *cramping* so badly he could hardly move it. — often + *up* ▪ My hand kept *cramping up*.
2 [+ *obj*] : to prevent (something) from developing or growing freely ▪ The new regulations may *cramp* the company's financial growth.
3 [+ *obj*] : to prevent (someone) from behaving or expressing emotions freely — usually used as *(be) cramped* ▪ She felt *cramped* [=*hemmed in*] by the school's strict regulations. ✧ Someone or something that ***cramps your style*** prevents you from behaving the way you want. ▪ He's not used to formality and finds that formal settings *cramp his style*.
– cramping *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ The medication may cause abdominal *cramping*.

cramped *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]
1 a : not having enough space inside : too small and crowded ▪ The family has been living in the *cramped* apartment for three months. ▪ They have been working in *cramped* conditions. **b** : not having enough space to move freely : feeling crowded and uncomfortable ▪ We were pretty *cramped* inside the tiny cabin.
2 : small and having parts too close together ▪ It's impossible to read his *cramped* handwriting. ▪ The keyboard is too *cramped* to be used by someone with normal-sized hands.

cram·pon /ˈkræmˌpɑːn/ *noun, pl* **-pons** [*count*] : a piece of metal with sharp points on the bottom that is worn by mountain climbers on the bottom of boots to make it easier to walk on ice and snow — usually plural ▪ a pair of *crampons*

cran·ber·ry /ˈkrænˌberi, *Brit* ˈkrænbəri/ *noun, pl* **-ries**
1 [*count*] : a small, dark red berry or the plant that produces it — often used before another noun ▪ *cranberry* sauce/juice ▪ *cranberry* bogs — see color picture on page C5
2 [*noncount*] : a dark red color
– cranberry *adj* ▪ a *cranberry* [=dark red] sweater

[1]crane /ˈkreɪn/ *noun, pl* **cranes** [*count*]
1 : a big machine with a long arm that is used by builders for lifting and moving heavy things ▪ a ***crane operator*** [=a person who operates a crane]
2 : a type of tall bird that has a long neck and long legs and lives near water

[2]crane *verb* **cranes**; **craned**; **cran·ing** : to stretch out (your neck) in order to see better [+ *obj*] We *craned* our necks toward the stage. [*no obj*] Everyone in the crowd was *craning* forward (to see her).

crane fly *noun, pl* ~ **flies** [*count*] *Brit* : a type of fly that has a long thin body, two wings, and long legs — called also (*Brit*) *daddy longlegs*

cra·ni·al /ˈkreɪnijəl/ *adj, always used before a noun, medical* : of or relating to the bones of the head that cover the brain : of or relating to the skull or cranium ▪ *cranial* capacity/injuries

cra·ni·um /ˈkreɪnijəm/ *noun, pl* **-ni·ums** *or* **-nia** /-nijə/ [*count*] *technical* : SKULL

[1]crank /ˈkræŋk/ *noun, pl* **cranks** [*count*]
1 : a machine part with a handle that can be turned in a circular motion ▪ To open the car window, turn the *crank* on the door.
2 *informal* + *usually disapproving* **a** : a person who has strange ideas or thinks too much about one thing ▪ He was dismissed as a *crank* until his article was published. ▪ Most people think she's just a harmless *crank*. **b** *US* : a person who is often angry or easily annoyed : GROUCH ▪ a bad-tempered old *crank*

[2]crank *verb* **cranks**; **cranked**; **crank·ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to move (something) by turning a crank — usually + *up* or *down* ▪ Will you *crank up/down* [=*roll up/down*] the window?
2 *informal* : to increase (something) especially by a large amount ▪ He *cranked* the temperature to 75 degrees. — usually + *up* ▪ *Crank up* [=*turn up*] the volume. ▪ The company is looking for new ways to *crank up* production.
3 : to start or try to start (an engine) by using a crank or some other method to get it moving ▪ *Crank* the engine to see if it will start.
4 *US, informal* : to move (something) in a circular motion ▪ He *cranked* [=*turned*] the steering wheel quickly to the left.
crank out [*phrasal verb*] ***crank out (something)*** *or* ***crank (something) out*** *informal* : to produce (something) quickly or carelessly ▪ The factory *cranks out* hundreds of cars every day. ▪ Not many musicians are able to *crank out* an album in just six months. ▪ He *cranked out* the report in less than an hour.

[3]crank *adj, always used before a noun* : made or sent as a joke or to cause harm ▪ an anonymous *crank* call ▪ He received a threatening *crank* letter.

crank·case /ˈkræŋkˌkeɪs/ *noun, pl* **-cas·es** [*count*] *technical* : the part of an engine that contains the crankshaft — see picture at ENGINE

crank·shaft /ˈkræŋkˌʃæft, *Brit* ˈkræŋkˌʃɑːft/ *noun, pl* **-shafts** [*count*] *technical* : a long metal piece that connects a vehicle's engine to the wheels and helps turn them — see picture at ENGINE

cranky /ˈkræŋki/ *adj* **crank·i·er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~] *informal*
1 *chiefly US* : easily annoyed or angered ▪ I've been *cranky* all day because I didn't get enough sleep. ▪ bored and *cranky* kids ▪ a *cranky* baby [=a baby that cries and wants a lot of attention]
2 *Brit* : strange or weird ▪ *cranky* ideas/theories
– crank·i·ness *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ I apologize for my *crankiness* yesterday.

C

cran•ny /'kræni/ *noun, pl* **-nies** [*count*] : a small opening or space ▪ We saw strange, colorful creatures in the *crannies* of the reef while scuba diving. ▪ We explored every *cranny* of the old castle. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ The book explores every *cranny* of her life. — see also *every nook and cranny* at NOOK

[1]crap /'kræp/ *noun, informal + impolite*

1 [*noncount*] : something that is worthless, unimportant, or of poor quality ▪ She treats him like (a piece of) *crap*. ▪ We have a lot of *crap* [=*junk*] in the garage.

2 [*noncount*] : foolish or untrue words or ideas : NONSENSE ▪ You don't believe all that *crap*, do you? ▪ "Do you think they're telling the truth?" "No, I think they're ***full of crap***." ▪ I heard what they said to you, and I think it's a ***load/pile of crap***. ▪ (*US*) It's all a ***bunch of crap***. ▪ ***Cut the crap*** [=stop lying] and tell me what really happened.

3 [*noncount*] : bad or unfair behavior or treatment ▪ Do what I say, and don't ***give me any crap***. ▪ He's a tough teacher who won't ***take crap*** from anyone. ▪ I won't ***stand for your crap*** any longer. = I won't ***put up with your crap*** any longer.

4 a [*noncount*] : solid waste passed out of the body : FECES **b** [*singular*] : the act of passing solid waste from the body — used in the phrases ***take a crap*** and (*Brit*) ***have a crap***

5 — used for emphasis after words like *scare, frighten*, and *beat* ▪ That movie ***scared the crap out of*** me. [=scared me very badly] ▪ The boxer ***beat the crap out of*** his opponent.

give a crap : to care at all about someone or something ▪ Who *gives a crap*? [=who cares?] — usually used in negative statements ▪ She *doesn't give a crap* about us.

like crap : very badly ▪ I sing *like crap*. [=I am a terrible singer] ✧ If you ***feel like crap***, you feel very sick, unhappy, etc. ▪ I got drunk at the party, and the next morning I *felt like crap*. [=I felt sick]

[2]crap *verb* **craps**; **crapped**; **crap•ping** [*no obj*] *informal + impolite* : to pass solid waste from the body : DEFECATE ▪ The puppy *crapped* on the floor.

[3]crap *adj, chiefly Brit slang, impolite* : of poor quality : not good ▪ The DJ played some *crap* [=*crappy*] music. ▪ I'm *crap* at golf. — compare [4]CRAP

[4]crap *adj, always used before a noun* : of or relating to the game of craps ▪ a *crap* game/table — compare [3]CRAP

crap•o•la /ˌkræp'oʊlə/ *noun* [*noncount*] *US slang*

1 : something that is useless or unimportant : CRAP ▪ The furniture in the garage is *crapola*.

2 : foolish or untrue words or ideas : CRAP ▪ Everything he says is just a bunch of *crapola*.

crap•per /'kræpɚ/ *noun*

the crapper *informal + impolite* : a toilet

crap•py /'kræpi/ *adj* **crap•pi•er**; **-est** *informal + impolite* : of poor quality : not good : LOUSY ▪ *crappy* music/weather ▪ I think that was the *crappiest* movie I've ever seen. ▪ I felt *crappy* all day yesterday.

craps /'kræps/ *noun* [*plural*] : a game played for money with two dice ▪ They were playing/shooting *craps* in the back of the room.

crap•shoot /'kræpˌʃu:t/ *noun, pl* **-shoots** [*count*] *US* : something that could produce a good or bad result — usually singular ▪ Choosing a restaurant can be a real *crapshoot* when you're in an unfamiliar city.

[1]crash /'kræʃ/ *verb* **crash•es**; **crashed**; **crash•ing**

1 a [*no obj*] : to hit something hard enough to cause serious damage or destruction ▪ Investigators are still trying to determine why the airplane *crashed*. [=why the airplane hit the ground] — often + *into* ▪ The car *crashed into* the fence/wall/guardrail. ▪ She *crashed into* another car. ▪ A large meteorite may have *crashed into* the Earth 65 million years ago. **b** [+ *obj*] : to damage (a vehicle) by causing it to hit something ▪ She *crashed* the car into a tree, but no one was hurt. ▪ He has *crashed* two cars, a truck, and a motorcycle.

2 a *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [*no obj*] : to make a loud noise by falling, hitting something, etc. ▪ We listened to the waves *crashing* against the shore. ▪ The stuntman *crashed* through the window on a motorcycle. ▪ The walls *crashed* down around them. ▪ He came *crashing* [=*tearing*] through the woods. ▪ The books *crashed* to the floor. ▪ The whole stack of cans ***came crashing down***. [=fell down with a lot of noise and force] — sometimes used figuratively ▪ The whole theory *came crashing down* when it was revealed that some of the supporting evidence had been falsified. ▪ His world *came crashing down* when he lost his job. **b** [*no obj*] : to make a loud noise ▪ The cymbals *crashed* and the trumpets blew. ▪ Thunder *crashed* as the rain started to pour. **c** [+ *obj*] : to cause two things to hit against each other and make a loud noise ▪ He *crashed* the cymbals together.

4 a [*no obj*] *of a computer* : to stop working suddenly ▪ My computer keeps *crashing*. **b** [+ *obj*] : to cause (a computer) to stop working suddenly ▪ This program always *crashes* my computer.

5 [*no obj*] *informal* **a** : to go to sleep ▪ I was exhausted after the long flight, so I just checked into the hotel and *crashed*. **b** : to stay or live for a short time with someone ▪ You can *crash* [=*sleep*] here tonight. ▪ She's *crashing* with friends for a few days while her apartment is being repaired.

6 [*no obj*] *of a business, price, market, etc.* : to go down in value very suddenly and quickly ▪ They lost thousands of dollars when the stock market *crashed*.

7 [+ *obj*] *informal* : to go to (a party) without being invited ▪ He tried to *crash* the party but they wouldn't let him in.

8 [+ *obj*] *US, sports* : to move very quickly and forcefully toward (something, such as the goal in ice hockey) ▪ The players *crashed* the net.

crash and burn *US, informal* : to fail completely ▪ The company *crashed and burned* after only two years in business.

— **crash•er** *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] ▪ a party *crasher*

[2]crash *noun, pl* **crashes** [*count*]

1 : an accident in which a vehicle is seriously damaged or destroyed by hitting something ▪ He was injured in a car *crash*. ▪ Investigators are still trying to determine the cause of the *crash*. ▪ a train/airplane *crash* ▪ An ambulance arrived at the *crash* site/scene within minutes.

2 : a very loud noise — usually singular ▪ The pot/glass fell to the floor with a *crash*. ▪ We listened to the *crash* of waves in the distance. ▪ He ended the song with a *crash* of cymbals. ▪ a *crash* of thunder

3 : an occurrence in which a computer suddenly stops working ▪ I am always experiencing computer *crashes*.

4 : a sudden and extreme fall or drop in amount or value ▪ They lost thousands of dollars in the stock market *crash*. ▪ a species of fish that has undergone a population *crash*

crash barrier *noun, pl* ~ **-ers** [*count*] *Brit* : GUARDRAIL

crash course *noun, pl* ~ **courses** [*count*] : a class in which a lot of information is taught in a short period of time ▪ Before her trip, she took a *crash course* in Russian culture and history at the local university. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ Taking care of his sister's children was a *crash course* in parenting for him.

crash diet *noun, pl* ~ **-ets** [*count*] : a way of losing a lot of weight very quickly by limiting how much you eat ▪ He went on a *crash diet* and lost 20 pounds in a month.

crash helmet *noun, pl* ~ **-mets** [*count*] : a very strong, hard hat that is worn to protect your head when you are riding a bicycle, motorcycle, etc.

crashing *adj, always used before a noun, informal* : very bad — used to make a negative statement more forceful ▪ The book is a *crashing* bore. [=the book is extremely boring] ▪ The movie was a *crashing* failure.

a crashing halt *chiefly US* : a complete and sudden end ▪ When news of the scandal broke, her career came to *a crashing halt*. ▪ Construction of the tunnel was brought to *a crashing halt* when the funds ran out.

crash–land /'kræʃ'lænd/ *verb* **-lands**; **-land•ed**; **-land•ing** : to land (an airplane, helicopter, etc.) in an unusual way because of an emergency [+ *obj*] The pilot *crash-landed* the plane in the field. [*no obj*] The pilot *crash-landed* in the field.

— **crash landing** *noun, pl* ~ **-ings** [*count*] ▪ The pilot had to make a *crash landing*.

crass /'kræs/ *adj* **crass•er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~] *disapproving* : having or showing no understanding of what is proper or acceptable : rude and insensitive ▪ A few people seemed shocked by her *crass* comments.

— **crass•ly** *adv* ▪ They were joking *crassly* about her appearance. — **crass•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

[1]crate /'kreɪt/ *noun, pl* **crates** [*count*]

1 a : a large wooden or plastic box used for moving things from one place to another ▪ The bear arrived at the zoo in a *crate*. ▪ packing/shipping *crates* ▪ *crates* of apples/equipment **b** : a metal or plastic container that is used to hold bottles ▪ Each milk *crate* holds nine bottles. **c** : the amount of something contained in a crate ▪ They used a *crate* of oranges to make enough juice for everyone.

2 *old-fashioned* : an old car or airplane that is in bad condition ▪ One day the old *crate* just wouldn't start.

[2]crate *verb* **crates**; **crat•ed**; **crat•ing** [+ *obj*] : to pack (something) in a crate ▪ The equipment was *crated* today and

will be shipped tomorrow. — often + *up* ▪ The bear was *crated up* and shipped to the zoo.

[1]cra•ter /ˈkreɪtə/ *noun, pl* **-ters** [*count*]
1 : a large round hole in the ground made by the explosion of a bomb or by something falling from the sky ▪ Scientists believe the enormous *crater* was created by the impact of a meteorite thousands of years ago.
2 : the area on top of a volcano that is shaped like a bowl ▪ We flew over the *crater* of the volcano in a helicopter.
– **cratered** /ˈkreɪtəd/ *adj* ▪ a *cratered* moon/surface

[2]crater *verb* **-ters**; **-tered**; **-ter•ing** [*no obj*] *US, informal* : to fail or fall suddenly ▪ The deal *cratered* when neither party could agree on the final price. ▪ Stock prices *cratered* after the companies' merger.

cra•vat /krəˈvæt/ *noun, pl* **-vats** [*count*] : a short, wide piece of cloth that is worn around the neck by men with its ends tucked inside the collar of a shirt or sweater

crave /ˈkreɪv/ *verb* **craves**; **craved**; **crav•ing** [+ *obj*] : to have a very strong desire for (something) ▪ Like many celebrities, he *craves* attention. ▪ I was *craving* french fries, so I pulled into the nearest fast-food restaurant.

cra•ven /ˈkreɪvən/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* : having or showing a complete lack of courage : very cowardly ▪ a *craven* decision ▪ *craven* compromises
– **cra•ven•ly** *adv* ▪ He *cravenly* fled from the scene.

crav•ing /ˈkreɪvɪŋ/ *noun, pl* **-ings** [*count*] : a very strong desire for something ▪ I had/felt a sudden *craving* for french fries, so I pulled into the nearest fast-food restaurant.

craw /ˈkrɑ:/ *noun, pl* **craws** [*count*] : an area in a bird's throat in which food can be kept : CROP
stick in your craw *informal* ✧ If something *sticks in your craw* you are very annoyed by it or cannot accept it because you think it is wrong or unfair. ▪ What really *sticks in my craw* is the way he acts as if he's done nothing wrong.

craw•dad /ˈkrɑ:ˌdæd/ *noun, pl* **-dads** [*count, noncount*] *US, informal* : CRAYFISH — used especially in the southern U.S.

craw•fish /ˈkrɑ:ˌfɪʃ/ *noun, pl* **crawfish** [*count, noncount*] *US* : CRAYFISH

[1]crawl /ˈkrɑ:l/ *verb* **crawls**; **crawled**; **crawl•ing**
1 [*no obj*] **a** : to move on your hands and knees ▪ Does the baby *crawl* yet? ▪ We got down on our knees and *crawled* through a small opening. ▪ The baby *crawled* across the floor toward her mother. **b** : to move with the body close to or on the ground ▪ The soldiers *crawled* forward on their bellies. ▪ The snake *crawled* into its hole. ▪ There's a spider *crawling* [=moving forward on its legs] up the wall.
2 a [*no obj*] : to move slowly ▪ They're doing construction on the road, so traffic is *crawling*. ▪ I worked late into the night, and it was 2 a.m. before I finally *crawled* into bed. ▪ The bus *crawled* along the rough and narrow road. ▪ The days slowly *crawled* by. ▪ Traffic has ***crawled to a stop/standstill*** [=has come to a complete stop after moving very slowly] ▪ Work on the project has *crawled to a standstill*. **b** [+ *obj*] : to move slowly on, across, or through (something) ▪ We all got into the old truck and *crawled* the streets of the city looking for him.
3 [*no obj*] : to be full of many people, insects, animals, etc. — usually used in the phrase ***be crawling with*** ▪ The courthouse *is crawling* [=*teeming*] *with* reporters today. ▪ The table *was crawling with* ants.
4 [*no obj*] *Brit, informal* + *disapproving* : to be extremely nice to someone in order to get approval or some advantage for yourself ▪ He's been *crawling* [=*creeping*] to the boss for months, so it's no surprise he got a promotion.
come/go crawling to *informal* ✧ If you *come/go crawling (back) to* someone, you go to someone for help or approval in a way that shows you are weak or sorry for what you have done. ▪ Don't *come crawling to* me for help later if you aren't going to listen to me now. ▪ He's *gone crawling back to* his old girlfriend.
crawl out of the woodwork see WOODWORK
make your skin/flesh crawl ✧ If something *makes your skin/flesh crawl*, it causes you to have an uncomfortable feeling of fear or disgust. ▪ Just thinking about being down in that dark cave *makes my skin crawl.*
– **crawl•er** /ˈkrɑ:lə/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] ▪ Both babies are *crawlers* now. — see also NIGHT CRAWLER

[2]crawl *noun* [*singular*]
1 : a very slow speed ▪ Near the construction site, traffic had slowed to a *crawl*. ▪ The bus was moving along at a *crawl*.
2 : a way of swimming in which the swimmer lies facing down in the water and moves first one arm over the head and then the other while kicking the legs ▪ Her strongest stroke is the *crawl*.
– see also PUB CRAWL

crawl space *noun, pl* ~ **spaces** [*count*] *US* : a space under the first floor or roof of a building that is not high enough to stand up in

cray•fish /ˈkreɪˌfɪʃ/ *noun, pl* **crayfish** [*count*] : an animal that looks like a small lobster and lives in rivers and streams — see color picture on page C8

cray•on /ˈkreɪˌɑ:n/ *noun, pl* **-ons** : a stick of colored wax that is used for drawing [*count*] a box of *crayons* [*noncount*] The drawing is done in *crayon*. — often used before another noun ▪ *crayon* drawings
– **crayon** *verb* **-ons**; **-oned**; **-on•ing** [+ *obj*] Which one of you children *crayoned* the wall? [=drew on the wall with a crayon] [*no obj*] Which child *crayoned* on the wall?

craze /ˈkreɪz/ *noun, pl* **craz•es** [*count*] : something that is very popular for a period of time ▪ the latest dance/fashion/music *craze* — often + *for* ▪ I don't understand the current *craze for* low-fat diets.

crazed /ˈkreɪzd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : wild and uncontrolled ▪ a *crazed* killer ▪ The *crazed* look in his eyes frightened me. ▪ the *crazed* ramblings/rantings of a lunatic ▪ an addict *crazed* with drugs [=made crazy by drugs] ▪ The prisoner was *crazed* [=made crazy] by pain and fear.

[1]cra•zy /ˈkreɪzi/ *adj* **cra•zi•er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : not sane: such as **a** *usually offensive* : having or showing severe mental illness ▪ a hospital for *crazy* people ✧ This sense is no longer used in a serious way and is now usually considered offensive. The phrase *mentally ill* is preferred. **b** : unable to think in a clear or sensible way ▪ She's *crazy* with jealousy. ▪ He's been acting kind of *crazy* lately. **c** — used in the phrase ***drive/make (someone) crazy*** to describe annoying or bothering someone very much ▪ It *makes* me *crazy* [=I feel very annoyed] when people drive like that. ▪ That noise is *driving* me *crazy*. [=it is really annoying me] ▪ The kids were *driving* the teacher *crazy*. — see also STIR-CRAZY
2 : wild and uncontrolled ▪ He had a *crazy* [=*crazed, insane, wild*] look in his eyes.
3 : very foolish or unreasonable ▪ He likes to drive at *crazy* [=*insane*] speeds. ▪ There are a lot of *crazy* drivers on the streets. ▪ You are *crazy* to have paid so much for this car. ▪ You would be *crazy* not to accept their offer! ▪ What a *crazy* thing to do!
4 : very strange or unusual ▪ She likes *crazy* hair colors, like pink and blue. ▪ How do you think of all these *crazy* ideas? ▪ I love to listen to my uncle's *crazy* stories about his job.
5 : liking someone or something very much : very fond of or enthusiastic about someone or something ▪ She's *crazy* for anything having to do with Japanese animation. ▪ teenagers who are ***girl/boy crazy*** [=very interested in girls/boys] — often + *about* ▪ They are *crazy about* each other. [=they like each other a lot] ▪ He wasn't *crazy about* making the trip, but was glad he did in the end. ▪ She is *crazy about* baseball.
go crazy **1** : to become mentally ill : to go insane ▪ She *went crazy* and started to think everyone was trying to kill her. — usually used in an exaggerated way ▪ I must be *going crazy*. I can't find my car keys anywhere. ▪ He kept honking his horn, and I thought I would *go* (completely) *crazy* if he didn't stop. **2** : to act in a way that is out of control : to act wildly ▪ We were just talking when he suddenly *went crazy* and started screaming and breaking things. ▪ Everybody at the party was dancing and basically *going crazy*. ▪ The crowd *went crazy* [=became very excited] when the team won the championship.
like crazy *informal* **1** : with a lot of energy and speed ▪ They've been working *like crazy* [=very hard] since dawn. **2** : very quickly ▪ Cars were selling *like crazy*. ▪ He's been spending money *like crazy*. **3** : very much ▪ When I broke my leg it hurt *like crazy*.
– **cra•zi•ly** /ˈkreɪzəli/ *adv* ▪ behaving *crazily* – **cra•zi•ness** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the *craziness* [=*insanity*] of war

[2]crazy *noun, pl* **-zies** [*count*] *chiefly US, informal* : a person who is crazy ▪ A bunch of *crazies* live there.

[3]crazy *adv, US, informal* : very or extremely ▪ I bought some *crazy* good/cheap stuff there.

crazy bone *noun, pl* ~ **bones** [*count*] *US* : FUNNY BONE

crazy golf *noun* [*noncount*] *Brit* : MINIATURE GOLF

crazy paving *noun* [*noncount*] *Brit* : many pieces of stone of different shapes and sizes that are placed together to form a path or other surface

crazy quilt *noun, pl* ~ **quilts** [*count*] *US*

C

1 : a covering for a bed that is made of many pieces of cloth in different sizes without a regular design
2 : a confused mix of things ▪ a *crazy quilt* [=*hodgepodge*] of regulations ▪ a *crazy quilt* of streets
– **crazy–quilt** *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ a *crazy-quilt* pattern ▪ *crazy-quilt* streets

creak /ˈkri:k/ *verb* **creaks**; **creaked**; **creak•ing** [*no obj*] : to make a long, high sound : to make a sound like the sound made by an old door when it opens or closes ▪ The door *creaked* open. = The door made a *creaking* sound as it opened. ▪ The old floorboards *creaked* under our feet. ▪ The porch roof *creaked* with the heavy weight of the snow.
– **creak** *noun, pl* **creaks** [*count*] ▪ We heard the *creak* of door as it opened.

creaky /ˈkri:ki/ *adj* **creak•i•er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : making a creaking sound ▪ *creaky* floorboards
2 : no longer working well : old and in bad condition ▪ The new governor promises to work to revive the state's *creaky* economy. ▪ a computer system that is *creaky* with age

[1]cream /ˈkri:m/ *noun, pl* **creams**
1 [*noncount*] : the thick part of milk that rises to the top : the part of milk that contains fat ▪ Would you like some *cream* in your coffee? ▪ strawberries and *cream* ▪ hot chocolate with whipped *cream* — see also CLOTTED CREAM, HEAVY CREAM, SOUR CREAM, WHIPPING CREAM
2 : a food that is made with cream [*noncount*] *cream* of tomato soup ▪ a chocolate candy with a vanilla *cream* center [*count*] a box of coconut *creams* [=chocolate candies filled with a coconut and cream mixture] — see also CREAM CHEESE, CREAM OF TARTAR, CREAM PUFF, ICE CREAM
3 : a very thick liquid or soft substance that is rubbed into the skin to make it softer or is used as a medicine for the skin [*noncount*] The doctor prescribed a new *cream* for the rash. ▪ Do you have any ***hand cream***? [=*hand lotion*] [*count*] a cabinet full of special *creams* and pills — see also COLD CREAM, SHAVING CREAM, SUN CREAM
4 ***the cream*** : the best part of something ▪ a party attended by *the cream* of society — see also *the cream of the crop* at [1]CROP
5 [*count, noncount*] : a pale yellowish color that is close to white — see color picture on page C2
like the cat that got the cream see CAT
– **cream** *adj* ▪ a *cream* [=*cream-colored*] sweater

[2]cream *verb* **creams**; **creamed**; **creaming** [+ *obj*]
1 : to stir or mix (ingredients) until they are soft and smooth ▪ *Cream* the butter and sugar, and then add the eggs.
2 *US, informal* **a** : to defeat (a person or team) easily and completely — usually used as *(be/get) creamed* ▪ Our team *got creamed* in the play-offs. **b** : to hit (someone) very hard — usually used as *(be/get) creamed* ▪ She *was creamed* by another skier as she was coming down the slope. ▪ The surfer *got creamed* by a huge wave.
cream off [*phrasal verb*] ***cream off (someone or something)*** *or* ***cream (someone or something) off*** *chiefly Brit* : to remove (the best part) from something : to take (someone or something) away for yourself ▪ Most of the profit was *creamed off* by the government. ▪ The best students are *creamed off* to attend other schools.
– **creamed** *adj* ▪ *creamed* corn/spinach/onions [=corn/spinach/onions in a sauce made with cream]

cream cheese *noun* [*noncount*] : a soft white cheese made from milk and cream

cream–colored *adj* : having a pale yellowish color that is close to white ▪ The sheets are *cream-colored*.

cream•er /ˈkri:mɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers**
1 [*count*] *US* : a small container that is used for serving cream ▪ a matching sugar bowl and *creamer*
2 [*count, noncount*] : a liquid or powder that is used instead of cream in coffee or tea ▪ a nondairy *creamer*

cream•ery /ˈkri:məri/ *noun, pl* **-er•ies** [*count*] : a place where butter and cheese are made or where milk and cream are prepared or sold

cream of tartar *noun* [*noncount*] : a type of white salt that is used especially in cooking and baking

cream puff *noun, pl* ~ **puffs** [*count*] *US*
1 : a type of light pastry that is filled with whipped cream or a sweetened cream filling and often topped with chocolate — called also (*Brit*) *profiterole*
2 *informal* : a weak person : a person who can be easily controlled or defeated ▪ We'll never win with a bunch of *cream puffs* on our team!
3 *informal* : a used car that is in very good condition

cream soda *noun, pl* ~ **-das** [*count, noncount*] : a type of sweet, bubbly soft drink that is flavored with vanilla

cream tea *noun, pl* ~ **teas** [*count*] *Brit* : a small meal eaten in the afternoon that includes tea with scones, jam, and cream

creamy /ˈkri:mi/ *adj* **cream•i•er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~]
1 a : made with cream or tasting like cream ▪ a rich, *creamy* flavor **b** : thick and smooth ▪ a *creamy* salad dressing ▪ The sauce has a smooth, *creamy* texture. ▪ Do you prefer *creamy* or crunchy peanut butter?
2 : smooth and soft ▪ She sings with a *creamy* voice.
3 : having a color like cream ▪ a *creamy* yellow ▪ *creamy* skin
– **cream•i•ness** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the *creaminess* of the sauce ▪ the *creaminess* of her skin

[1]crease /ˈkri:s/ *noun, pl* **creas•es**
1 [*count*] **a** : a line or mark made by folding, pressing, or crushing something (such as cloth or a piece of paper) ▪ He ironed his pants to make the *creases* sharp. ▪ a *crease* in the paper — see color picture on page C15 **b** : a line or fold in someone's skin : WRINKLE ▪ tiny *creases* at the corners of his eyes
2 ***the crease*** : an area around or in front of a goal in some games (such as hockey) ▪ Players from the opposing team may not enter *the crease*.
3 [*singular*] *Brit* : the line where the batsman stands in cricket ▪ The batsman moved out of the/his *crease*.

[2]crease *verb* **creases**; **creased**; **creas•ing**
1 [+ *obj*] : to fold, press, or crush (something, such as cloth or a piece of paper) so that a line or mark is formed : to put a crease in (something) ▪ a neatly *creased* pair of pants ▪ The pages of the book were stained and *creased*.
2 : to make a line or fold in (someone's skin) [+ *obj*] A frown *creased* [=*wrinkled*] his forehead ▪ Their faces were *creased* with worry. [=they had lines on their faces because they were worried] [*no obj*] She looked up, her face *creasing* into a smile.

cre•ate /kriˈeɪt/ *verb* **-ates**; **-at•ed**; **-at•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to make or produce (something) : to cause (something new) to exist ▪ Several new government programs were *created* while she was governor. ▪ The President has announced a plan to *create* new jobs. ▪ the scientists who *created* the world's first atomic bomb ▪ The machine *creates* a lot of noise. ▪ According to the Bible, the world was *created* [=*made*] in six days.
2 : to cause (a particular situation) to exist ▪ You *created* [=*made*, *caused*] this mess, and now you'll have to fix it. ▪ We need everyone's help in *creating* [=*developing*] a better society. ▪ It can be hard to *create* a balance between work and family. ▪ She *creates* a friendly and welcoming atmosphere for her guests. ▪ The advertisements are intended to *create* demand for the product.
3 : to produce (something new, such as a work of art) by using your talents and imagination ▪ He *creates* beautiful paintings. ▪ I've been *creating* music for over 30 years. ▪ She enjoys *creating* new dishes by combining unusual ingredients.
4 *chiefly Brit* : to give (someone) a new title or rank ▪ She was *created* (the) Duchess of Cornwall.

cre•a•tion /kriˈeɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**
1 [*noncount*] : the act of making or producing something that did not exist before : the act of creating something ▪ The play continues to entertain audiences 25 years after its *creation*. ▪ Job *creation* will be an important issue in next year's elections. ▪ These changes will lead to the *creation* of new businesses.
2 [*count*] : something new that is made or produced : something that has been created ▪ The company was largely the *creation* of one woman. ▪ his latest artistic *creation* ▪ Come taste our chef's delicious new *creations*. ▪ She's wearing one of her original fashion *creations*.
3 [*noncount*] : everything in the world ▪ How are humans different from the rest of *creation*? ▪ the whole of *creation* [=all of the world] ▪ They've traveled all over *creation*. [=they've traveled everywhere]
4 *or* ***Creation*** [*noncount*] : the act of making the world ▪ the biblical story of *Creation* ▪ *creation* myths [=stories about how people and the world were first created]

cre•a•tion•ism /kriˈeɪʃəˌnɪzəm/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the belief that God created all things out of nothing as described in the Bible and that therefore the theory of evolution is incorrect
– **cre•a•tion•ist** /kriˈeɪʃənɪst/ *noun, pl* **-ists** [*count*]

cre•a•tive /kri'eɪtɪv/ *adj*
1 [*more ~; most ~*] : having or showing an ability to make new things or think of new ideas • He was more *creative* [=*imaginative*] than the other students. • She's a very *creative* person. • She has one of the most *creative* minds in the business. • a burst of *creative* energy [=energy that you use to make or think of new things] • They've come up with some *creative* new ways to make money. • a *creative* solution to a difficult problem • *creative* thinking
2 *always used before a noun* : using the ability to make or think of new things : involving the process by which new ideas, stories, etc., are created • He teaches *creative* writing at the university. • the first step in the *creative* process • the show's *creative* director/team
3 *always used before a noun, usually disapproving* : done in an unusual and often dishonest way • It turns out that the company's report of record profits last year was due to some ***creative accounting***.
– **cre•a•tive•ly** *adv* [*more ~; most ~*] • Try to think more *creatively*. • solving problems *creatively* – **cre•a•tive•ness** *noun* [*noncount*] • I admire her *creativeness*. [=(more commonly) *creativity*]

cre•a•tiv•i•ty /ˌkri:ˌeɪ'tɪvəti/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the ability to make new things or think of new ideas • her intelligence and artistic *creativity*

cre•a•tor /kri'eɪtɚ/ *noun, pl* **-tors**
1 [*count*] : a person who makes something new • the *creator* of the popular television show • the Web site's *creators*
2 *Creator* [*singular*] : GOD 1 • " . . . all men . . . are endowed by their *Creator* with certain unalienable Rights . . . " —*U.S. Declaration of Independence* (1776)

crea•ture /'kri:tʃɚ/ *noun, pl* **-tures** [*count*]
1 a : an animal of any type • rabbits, squirrels, and other furry *creatures* • They say that these forests are filled with wild *creatures*. [=*beasts*] • Few ***living creatures*** can survive without water. **b** : an imaginary or very strange kind of animal • fantastic/mythical/legendary *creatures* [=*beasts*, *monsters*] • strange sea *creatures* • a giant hairy apelike *creature*
2 : a person usually of a specified type • She's a *creature* of rare beauty. • A social *creature* by nature, he loves working with people. • The poor *creature* had no way to get home.
3 : a person or thing that is influenced or controlled by something specified — + *of* • She's a *creature of* politics. • The industry is still a *creature of* the 1930s. [=it began in the 1930s and has not changed] • I'm a ***creature of habit***. [=I always do the same things in the same way]

creature comfort *noun, pl* ~ **-forts** [*count*] : something that makes life easier or more pleasant — usually plural • a hotel with all the *creature comforts* [=*amenities*] of home

crèche /'krɛʃ/ *noun, pl* **crèch•es** [*count*]
1 *US* : a set of statues that represents the scene of Jesus Christ's birth and that is displayed during Christmas — called also (*chiefly Brit*) *crib*
2 *Brit* : a place where young children are cared for during the day while their parents are working : a day care center

cred /'krɛd/ *noun* [*noncount*] *informal* : the fact of being accepted and respected as a member of a social group or class • geek/hipster *cred* ✧ *Cred* is an abbreviation of *credibility*. — see also STREET CRED

cre•dence /'kri:dn̩s/ *noun* [*noncount*]
1 : belief that something is true • I ***place/put*** little ***credence in*** statistics. [=I generally do not believe statistics] • Don't ***give credence to*** [=don't believe] their gossip.
2 : the quality of being believed or accepted as something true or real • This new evidence gives/adds/lends (some) *credence* [=*credibility*] to their theory. [=makes their theory believable] • The theory is gaining *credence* among scientists.

cre•den•tial /krɪ'dɛnʃəl/ *noun, pl* **-tials** [*count*]
1 : a quality, skill, or experience that makes a person suited to do a job • My experience as a manager is my strongest *credential*. — usually plural • What are your *credentials*? [=*qualifications*] • her impressive academic/professional *credentials*
2 : a document which shows that a person is qualified to do a particular job • (*US*) a teaching *credential* [=(more commonly) *certificate*] — usually plural • The doctor showed us her *credentials*. • press *credentials* [=documents which show that a person is a journalist]
– **credentialed** *adj, US* • a *credentialed* teacher

cred•i•bil•i•ty /ˌkrɛdə'bɪləti/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the quality of being believed or accepted as true, real, or honest • The new evidence lends *credibility* to their theory. • a lack/loss of *credibility* • The scandal undermined/damaged her *credibility* as an honest politician. • In this instance, the lawyer's job is to make the jury doubt/question the witness's *credibility*. • They doubted the *credibility* of the witness's story. [=they doubted that the story was true]

credibility gap *noun, pl* ~ **gaps** [*count*] : a situation in which the things that someone says are not believed or trusted because of the difference between what is said and what seems to be true • There is a *credibility gap* between what the mayor says and what the people see happening in the city. • The fact that the new estimates are so wildly different from the initial numbers has created a *credibility gap*.

cred•i•ble /'krɛdəbəl/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*]
1 : able to be believed : reasonable to trust or believe • Their story seemed *credible* [=*believable*, *plausible*] at first. • We've received *credible* information about the group's location. • *credible* evidence/witnesses
2 : good enough to be effective • She does a *credible* job of playing the famous singer.
– **cred•i•bly** /'krɛdəbli/ *adv* • She can talk *credibly* about the difficulties of being poor in this country.

[1]cred•it /'krɛdɪt/ *noun, pl* **-its**
1 [*noncount*] **a** : money that a bank or business will allow a person to use and then pay back in the future • banks that extend *credit* to the public • Some banks will charge a fee if you go over your ***credit limit***. [=if you spend more money than the bank has agreed to let you use] ✧ If you buy something ***on credit***, you take it and promise to pay for it later. • Back then, stores allowed their customers to buy food *on credit*. **b** : a record of how well you have paid your bills in the past • How's your *credit*? • Do you have good *credit*? [=have you paid back money you owe, paid your bills when they are due, etc.?] • You need to have a strong ***credit history*** and a good job in order to get a mortgage.
2 [*count*] **a** : an amount of money that is added to an account • A *credit* of $50 was added to your account. — opposite DEBIT **b** : an amount of money that is subtracted from the amount that must be paid • Families with children in college will receive a ***tax credit*** this year. [=the amount that they owe in taxes will be reduced]
3 [*noncount*] : praise or special attention that is given to someone for doing something or for making something happen • All the *credit* must go to the play's talented director. • She's finally getting the *credit* she deserves. • He shared the *credit* with his parents. • You've got to give her *credit*; she knows what she's doing. — often + *for* • They were given *credit for* the discovery. • He didn't actually write the essay, but he got *credit for* it. • You have to give us *credit for* trying. We did the best we could. • She never took *credit for* her achievements. • Party leaders took/claimed ***full credit for*** the country's progress. [=they claimed that they alone caused the country's progress] ✧ If you ***give credit where credit is due*** you praise someone who deserves to be praised. • In receiving this award, I must *give credit where credit is due* and acknowledge all the people who helped me.
4 [*noncount*] : a good opinion that people have about someone or something ✧ Someone or something that ***brings credit to you*** or ***does you credit*** causes people to think of you in favorable way. • She is a talented journalist who has *brought credit to* the newspaper. • The fact that administrators fired the offending teacher immediately *does* the school *credit*. ✧ Something that is ***to your credit*** causes people to have a more favorable opinion of you. • It's *to her credit* that she admitted her mistake. • *To his credit*, Mr. Smith has offered to pay for the damages. ✧ Something that ***does you no credit*** causes people to have a less favorable opinion of you. • It *does them no credit* to continue fighting over this issue.
5 [*singular*] : a source of honor or pride for someone or something — used in the phrase ***a credit to*** • You are *a credit to* your family and your country. • He's an excellent athlete and *a credit to* the sport.
6 *credits* [*plural*] : a list of the names of the people who have worked on or performed in a movie, television program, etc. • the movie's opening/closing *credits* • Her name was listed in the *credits*. • We always stay to watch the *credits*.
7 a : a unit that measures a student's progress towards earning a degree in a school, college, etc. [*count*] So far, you've earned a total of 12 *credits*. [*noncount*] Our program gives academic *credit* for working with several social service organizations. **b** [*noncount*] : the amount of points earned for work done on a test, exam, project, etc. • Students will only receive partial *credit* for correct answers that are not written as complete sentences. • To earn ***full credit*** [=the total amount of points possible] you must include at least three

maps with your project. ▪ Answer this last question correctly for ***extra credit***. — sometimes used figuratively. ▪ They deserve respect for making the event happen, and they get *extra credit* for doing it in a way that included everyone.

on the credit side **1** *chiefly Brit* : in the section of a financial record where credits are written ▪ Enter these amounts *on the credit side*. **2** — used when mentioning the things that you like about something ▪ *On the credit side*, the restaurant offers a wide range of choices.

[2]credit *verb* **-its; -it•ed; -it•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 a : to add (an amount of money) to a total ▪ Your payment of $38.50 has been *credited* to your account. — opposite DEDUCT **b** : to add money to (an account) ▪ The bank is *crediting* your account for the full amount. — opposite DEBIT

2 a : to give honor or recognition to (someone or something) for doing something or for making something happen ▪ The team's players all *credit* their coach [=they say their coach is responsible] for helping them succeed. — often + *with* ▪ She *credits* her family *with* her success. ▪ He was *credited with* saving their lives. **b** : to say that (something) is because of someone or something : to give credit for (something) *to* someone or something ▪ She *credits* [=*attributes*] her success *to* her family's support. ▪ They *credited* the rescue *to* his quick thinking.

3 : to think of (someone) as having a particular quality or effect — usually used as *(be) credited* ▪ She *is credited* as (being) the first woman to play the sport professionally.

4 *chiefly Brit* : to believe that (something) is true ▪ It's hard to *credit* that anyone would want to buy this old car.

cred•it•able /ˈkrɛdətəbəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : good enough to be praised ▪ a *creditable* [=*estimable*] performance — **cred•it•ably** /ˈkrɛdətəbli/ *adv* ▪ He performed the part *creditably*.

credit account *noun, pl* ~ **accounts** [*count*] *Brit* : CHARGE ACCOUNT

credit card *noun, pl* ~ **cards** [*count*] : a small plastic card that is used to buy things that you agree to pay for later — called also *charge card*; compare DEBIT CARD

credit line *noun, pl* ~ **lines** [*count*] : LINE OF CREDIT

cred•i•tor /ˈkrɛdətɚ/ *noun, pl* **-tors** [*count*] : a person, bank, or company that lends money to someone ▪ She owes thousands of dollars to *creditors*. — opposite DEBTOR

credit rating *noun, pl* ~ **ratings** [*count*] : a score or grade that a company or organization gives to a possible borrower and that indicates how likely the borrower is to repay a loan ✧ Credit ratings are based on how much money, property, and debt a borrower has and on how well the borrower has paid past debts.

credit union *noun, pl* ~ **unions** [*count*] : an organization that gives small loans to its members at low interest rates and that offers savings and checking accounts

cred•it•wor•thy /ˈkrɛdɪtˌwɚði/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : considered able to repay borrowed money ▪ *creditworthy* customers — **cred•it•wor•thi•ness** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the company's *creditworthiness*

cre•do /ˈkri:doʊ/ *noun, pl* **cre•dos** [*count*] : an idea or set of beliefs that guides the actions of a person or group ▪ Our *credo* [=*creed*, *philosophy*] is "better safe than sorry." ▪ my personal *credo*

cre•du•li•ty /krɪˈdu:ləti, *Brit* krɪˈdju:ləti/ *noun* [*noncount*] *formal* : ability or willingness to believe something ▪ Although most of the book is believable, its ending tests/strains *credulity*. [=its ending is difficult to believe; its ending does not seem true or possible]

cred•u•lous /ˈkrɛʤələs, *Brit* ˈkrɛdjʊləs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : too ready to believe things : easily fooled or cheated ▪ Few people are *credulous* enough to believe such nonsense. ▪ a *credulous* audience — **cred•u•lous•ly** *adv* — **cred•u•lous•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

creed /ˈkri:d/ *noun, pl* **creeds** [*count*]

1 : a statement of the basic beliefs of a religion ▪ the religion's *creed* ▪ people of different races and *creeds* [=religions]

2 : an idea or set of beliefs that guides the actions of a person or group ▪ a political *creed* [=*credo*]

creek /ˈkri:k/ *noun, pl* **creeks** [*count*]

1 *US* : a small stream ▪ The children waded in the *creek*.

2 *Brit* : INLET ▪ The coast is dotted with tiny *creeks*.

up the creek *or* ***up the creek without a paddle*** *informal* : in a very difficult situation that you cannot get out of ▪ If you hadn't helped us, we would've been *up the creek*.

creel /ˈkri:l/ *noun, pl* **creels** [*count*] : a basket that is used for carrying fish that have just been caught — see picture at FISHING

[1]creep /ˈkri:p/ *verb* **creeps**; **crept** /ˈkrɛpt/; **creep•ing** [*no obj*]

1 : to move slowly with the body close to the ground ▪ A spider was *creeping* [=*crawling*] along the bathroom floor. ▪ She *crept* toward the edge of the roof and looked over.

2 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* **a** : to move slowly and quietly especially in order to not be noticed ▪ I caught him *creeping* down the stairs to the kitchen. ▪ She *crept* into bed next to her sleeping husband. **b** : to go or seem to go very slowly ▪ The hours *crept* by as we waited for morning. ▪ a train *creeping* through the town

3 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* : to appear gradually and in a way that is difficult to notice ▪ The price of gasoline has *crept* back up to three dollars a gallon. ▪ A few mistakes *crept* in during the last revision of the paper. ▪ new words *creeping* into the language

4 *of a plant* : to grow along the ground or up a surface (such as a tree or wall) ▪ ivy *creeping* up a wall ▪ a *creeping* vine

5 *Brit, informal* + *disapproving* : to be extremely nice to someone in order to get approval or some advantage for yourself ▪ He's been *creeping* (up) to the boss for months, so it's no surprise he got a promotion.

creep out [*phrasal verb*] ***creep (someone) out*** *or* ***creep out (someone)*** *US, informal* : to cause (someone) to have an uncomfortable feeling of nervousness or fear : to give (someone) the creeps ▪ That guys really *creeps* me *out*. ▪ I felt *creeped out* being alone in the office at night.

creep up on [*phrasal verb*] ***creep up on (someone)*** *informal* : to slowly and quietly move closer to (someone) without being noticed ▪ We tried to *creep up on* [=*sneak up on*] them but they heard our footsteps. — often used figuratively ▪ Old age *creeps up on* us. ▪ The deadline had *crept up on* them.

make your skin/flesh creep ✧ If something *makes your skin/flesh creep*, it causes you to have an uncomfortable feeling of fear or disgust. ▪ The thought of touching that slimy mess *makes my skin creep*.

[2]creep *noun, pl* **creeps** *informal*

1 [*count*] : a strange person who you strongly dislike ▪ Leave me alone, you *creep*! [=*jerk*, *weirdo*]

2 *the creeps* : an uncomfortable feeling of nervousness or fear ▪ I ***get the creeps*** every time he walks by. ▪ I hate snakes. They ***give me the creeps***. ▪ That guy *gives me the creeps*.

creep•er /ˈkri:pɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a plant that grows along the ground or up surfaces (such as trees or walls)

creepy /ˈkri:pi/ *adj* **creep•i•er**; **-est** [*or more* ~; *most* ~] *informal* : strange or scary : causing people to feel nervous and afraid ▪ a *creepy* movie ▪ a *creepy* old house ▪ There's something *creepy* about that guy. — **creep•i•ly** /ˈkri:pəli/ *adv* — **creep•i•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

creepy–crawly /ˈkri:piˈkrɑ:li/ *noun, pl* **-lies** [*count*] *informal* : an unpleasant worm, insect, or spider ▪ a basement full of *creepy-crawlies*

cre•mate /ˈkri:ˌmeɪt, krɪˈmeɪt/ *verb* **-mates**; **-mat•ed**; **-mat•ing** [+ *obj*] : to burn (the body of a person who has died) ▪ He wants to be *cremated* when he dies. — **cre•ma•tion** /krɪˈmeɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ Some religions do not allow *cremation*.

cre•ma•to•ri•um /ˌkri:məˈtorijəm, *Brit* ˌkrɛməˈtɔ:riəm/ *noun, pl* **-to•ria** /-ˈtorijə, *Brit* -ˈtɔ:riə/ *or* **-to•ri•ums** [*count*] : CREMATORY

cre•ma•to•ry /ˈkri:məˌtori, *Brit* ˈkrɛmətri/ *noun, pl* **-ries** [*count*] *chiefly US* : a place where the bodies of dead people are cremated

crème an•glaise /ˌkrɛmɑŋˈgleɪz/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a sweet sauce made with cream that is usually served with desserts

crème brû•lée /ˌkrɛmbruˈleɪ/ *noun, pl* ~ **-lées** [*count, noncount*] : a sweet dessert made of a smooth, thick custard covered with a hard top of cooked sugar

crème car•a•mel /ˌkrɛmˌkerəˈmɛl/ *noun, pl* ~ **-mels** [*count, noncount*] : a sweet dessert made of a smooth, thick custard covered in a caramel sauce

crème de la crème /ˈkrɛmdəlɑˈkrɛm/ *noun*

the crème de la crème : the very best people or things in a group ▪ These actors are *the crème de la crème* [=*the cream of the crop*] of American theater.

crème de menthe /ˈkrɛmdəˈmɛnθ, *Brit* ˈkrɛmdəˈmɒnθ/

noun [*noncount*] : a sweet and often green alcoholic drink with a mint flavor

crème fraîche /ˈkrɛmˈfrɛʃ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a thick cream that is slightly sour and often served on fruit

cren•el•lat•ed /ˈkrɛnəˌleɪtəd/ *adj* : having open spaces at the top of a wall so that people can shoot guns and cannons outward ▪ the castle's *crenellated* walls ▪ a *crenellated* tower

Cre•ole /ˈkriːˌoʊl/ *noun, pl* **-oles**

1 [*count*] : a person who has African and French or Spanish ancestors; *especially* : such a person who lives in the West Indies

2 [*count*] : a person whose ancestors were some of the first people from France or Spain to live in the southeastern U.S. ✧ *Creoles* continue to have the same language and culture as their French or Spanish ancestors.

3 a [*noncount*] : a language that is based on French and that uses words from African languages ▪ Some people in Louisiana speak *Creole*. ▪ Haitian *Creole* [=a type of Creole spoken in Haiti] **b** ***creole*** [*count*] *linguistics* : a language that is based on one language but that has some words from another language

cre•ole *or* **Creole** /ˈkriːˌoʊl/ *adj*

1 : relating to people who are Creoles or to their language ▪ *Creole* music ▪ a *Creole* woman ▪ a *creole* word

2 — used to describe spicy food that is usually made with rice, okra, tomatoes, and peppers ✧ *Creole* is used for the traditional food of the Creoles from the southeastern U.S. ▪ He ordered the shrimp *creole*. ▪ *creole* dishes such as gumbo

cre•o•sote /ˈkriːjəˌsoʊt/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a brown, oily liquid used to keep wood from rotting

– **creosote** *verb* **-sotes**; **-sot•ed**; **-sot•ing** [+ *obj*] ▪ *creosoted* wood

crepe *or* **crêpe** /ˈkreɪp/ *noun, pl* **crepes** *or* **crêpes**

1 [*count*] : a very thin pancake

2 [*noncount*] : a thin often silk or cotton cloth that has many very small wrinkles all over its surface

3 [*noncount*] : a thin, hard type of rubber that has a bumpy surface and that is used especially for the bottoms of shoes ▪ *crepe*-soled shoes

crepe paper *noun* [*noncount*] : a type of colorful paper that has a wrinkled surface ✧ People often use colorful strips of crepe paper to make decoratations for a party, celebration, etc. ▪ a room decorated with balloons and strands of *crepe paper*

crept *past tense and past participle of* ¹CREEP

cre•scen•do /krəˈʃɛndoʊ/ *noun, pl* **-dos** *also* **-does** [*count*]

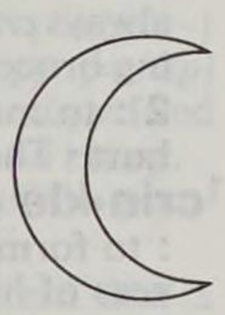
1 : a gradual increase in the loudness of a sound or section of music

2 : the highest or loudest point of something that increases gradually ▪ The excitement reaches its *crescendo* [=*climax*, *peak*] when he comes on stage. ▪ The noise rose to a *crescendo*.

cres•cent /ˈkrɛsn̩t/ *noun, pl* **-cents**

1 [*singular*] : the shape of the visible part of the moon when it is less than half full ▪ the *crescent* moon

2 [*count*] : a shape that is curved, wide at its center, and pointed at its two ends like a crescent moon ✧ The crescent is used as a symbol of Islam. — see also RED CRESCENT



crescent

cress /ˈkrɛs/ *noun, pl* **cress•es** [*count, noncount*] : a small plant that has spicy leaves that are eaten especially in salads — see also WATERCRESS

¹crest /ˈkrɛst/ *noun, pl* **crests** [*count*]

1 : the highest part or point of something (such as a hill or wave) ▪ wave *crests* — usually + *of* ▪ The boat rose up on the *crest of* the wave. ▪ We stood on the *crest of* the hill/mountain. ▪ the *crest of* the flood — often used figuratively ▪ They're still riding the *crest of* the wave of their success. [=they are still very happy, excited, etc., because of their success] ▪ He was at the *crest of* his fame when he died tragically.

2 : a group of decorative feathers at the top of a bird's head; *also* : a decorative bunch of hair on the head of another animal

3 : a special symbol used especially in the past to represent a family, group, or organization ▪ her family's *crest* — compare COAT OF ARMS

²crest *verb* **crests**; **crest•ed**; **crest•ing**

1 [+ *obj*] : to reach the highest part or point of (a mountain, wave, etc.) ▪ We *crested* the hill and looked out around us.

2 [*no obj*] *US* : to rise to a high level before going back down ▪ The river *crested* [=reached its highest level] at 10 feet above its normal level. — often used figuratively ▪ His acting career *crested* in the mid-1940s.

crest•ed /ˈkrɛstəd/ *adj* : having a decorative bunch of feathers or hair : having a crest ▪ a *crested* bird

crest•fall•en /ˈkrɛstˌfɑːlən/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : very sad and disappointed ▪ After losing its last game, the team was *crestfallen*. [=*dejected*, *depressed*] ▪ my *crestfallen* [=*downcast*] teammates

cre•tin /ˈkriːtn̩, *Brit* ˈkrɛtn̩/ *noun, pl* **-tins** [*count*] *informal* + *offensive* : a stupid or annoying person ▪ Let me know if these *cretins* [=*jerks*, *idiots*] bother you.

– **cre•tin•ous** /ˈkriːtn̩əs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ a *cretinous* lout

Creutz•feldt–Ja•kob disease /ˈkrɔɪtsˌfɛltˈjɑːˌkoʊb-/ *noun* [*noncount*] *medical* : a disease of the brain that causes people to lose their memory, to no longer be able to control their muscles, and eventually to die — called also *CJD*

cre•vasse /krɪˈvæs/ *noun, pl* **-vas•ses** [*count*] : a deep, narrow opening or crack in an area of thick ice or rock

crev•ice /ˈkrɛvəs/ *noun, pl* **-ic•es** [*count*] : a narrow opening or crack in a hard surface and especially in rock

¹crew /ˈkruː/ *noun, pl* **crews**

1 [*count*] **a** : the group of people who operate a ship, airplane, or train ▪ a skilled member of a ship's *crew* ▪ flight *crews* ▪ the flight's passengers and *crew* ▪ *crew* members **b** : the people who work on a ship except the officers and captain ▪ the ship's captain and *crew*

2 [*count*] : a group of people who do a specified kind of work together ▪ A construction *crew* will begin work on the house next week. ▪ the restaurant's kitchen *crew* ▪ television/news/film *crews* ▪ the film's camera *crew* ▪ We spoke with members of the show's original ***cast and crew***. [=actors and other people who work to produce a show] ▪ the driver's ***pit crew*** [=people who fix a race car during a race] ▪ one of the factory's ***crew chiefs*** [=people in charge of a group of workers] — see also GROUND CREW

3 [*singular*] *informal* : a group of people who are friends or who are doing something together ▪ He and his *crew* [=*gang*] used to hang out at the bowling alley. ▪ We were a ***motley crew*** [=an unusual mixed group] of musicians and athletes.

4 a [*count*] : a team that rows a boat in a race against other boats ▪ *Crews* from several colleges will be competing in today's race. **b** [*noncount*] *US* : the sport of racing in long, narrow boats that are moved by rowing with oars : ROWING ▪ In college, she participated in both *crew* and tennis.

²crew *verb* **crews**; **crewed**; **crew•ing** : to work as a member of a crew that operates a ship or airplane [*no obj*] She spent a couple of years *crewing* on a British ship. [+ *obj*] The ship was *crewed* by 12 men.

crew cut *noun, pl* ~ **cuts** [*count*] : a very short haircut usually for men or boys — called also (*US*) *buzz cut*; see picture at HAIR

crew•man /ˈkruːmən/ *noun, pl* **-men** [*count*] : a member of a crew: such as **a** : a person who helps operate a ship, airplane, or train ▪ Eight *crewmen* were wounded in the attack. **b** : a person who is part of a group of people who work together ▪ TV *crewmen*

crew neck *noun, pl* ~ **necks** [*count*]

1 : a plain, round neck on a T-shirt, sweater, etc. — often used before another noun ▪ a cotton *crew neck* sweatshirt

2 *usually* ***crewneck*** : a sweater with a crew neck

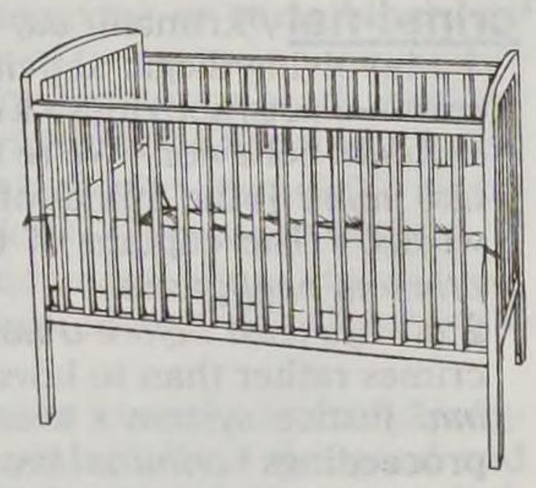
¹crib /ˈkrɪb/ *noun, pl* **cribs** [*count*]

1 a *US* : a small bed with high sides for a baby — called also (*Brit*) *cot* **b** *Brit* : ¹CRADLE 1

2 *chiefly Brit* : CRÈCHE 1

3 : a long open box that holds food for farm animals

4 *informal* : something used for cheating on a test — usually used before another noun ▪ *crib* notes ▪ He got caught using a ***crib sheet***. [=a piece of paper with answers to test questions]



crib

5 *US slang* : a usually small room, apartment, or house ▪ How about coming up to my *crib*? [=*place*]

²crib *verb* **cribs**; **cribbed**; **crib•bing** : to copy an idea, a piece of writing, etc., from someone else [+ *obj*] She *cribbed* a line or two from her favorite poet. [*no obj*] students *cribbing* off each other's papers

crib•bage /ˈkrɪbɪʤ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a card game for two players in which a special board is used to count each player's points

crib death *noun, pl* ~ **deaths** [*count, noncount*] *US* : SUDDEN INFANT DEATH SYNDROME

[1]crick /ˈkrɪk/ *noun, pl* **cricks** [*count*] : a sudden pain especially in your neck or back that is caused by tight muscles — usually singular; usually + *in* ▪ I got a *crick in* my neck from looking up at the stars too long.

[2]crick *verb* **cricks**; **cricked**; **crick•ing** [+ *obj*] *chiefly Brit* : to develop a crick in (your neck or back) ▪ He *cricked* his back sleeping on the sofa. ▪ a *cricked* neck

[1]crick•et /ˈkrɪkət/ *noun, pl* **-ets** [*count*] : a small black insect that jumps high and that makes loud, high-pitched noises — see color picture on page C10 — compare [2]CRICKET

[2]cricket *noun* [*noncount*] : a game played on a large field by two teams of 11 players who try to score runs by hitting a small ball with a bat and then running between two sets of wooden sticks — often used before another noun ▪ a *cricket* match — see pictures at BALL, BAT, GLOVE

not cricket *Brit, old-fashioned* : not fair, polite, or proper ▪ You can't keep ignoring her. It just *isn't cricket.*

– compare [1]CRICKET

crick•et•er /ˈkrɪkətɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a person who plays cricket

cri•key /ˈkraɪki/ *interj, chiefly Brit* — used to express mild surprise ▪ *Crikey*, that was close!

crime /ˈkraɪm/ *noun, pl* **crimes**

1 [*count*] : an illegal act for which someone can be punished by the government ▪ Have you ever been convicted of a *crime*? = Were you ever found guilty of a *crime*? ▪ a very serious *crime* ▪ She paid dearly for her *crimes*. ▪ The punishment didn't fit the *crime*. [=the punishment was too mild/severe] ▪ evidence that helped them solve the *crime* ▪ a federal *crime* ▪ weapons used to ***commit crimes*** [=to do something illegal] ▪ I've *committed* no *crime*. = I haven't *committed* any *crime*. ▪ He was punished for a *crime* that he didn't *commit*. ▪ laws against ***hate crimes*** [=crimes that people commit because they hate the victim's race, religion, etc.] ▪ He thought he had committed a/the ***perfect crime***. [=a crime that leaves no evidence] — see also WAR CRIME, WHITE-COLLAR CRIME

2 [*noncount*] : activity that is against the law : illegal acts in general ▪ poverty and *crime* ▪ Hiring more police officers would help prevent/deter/reduce (the amount of) *crime* in our city. ▪ leaders who are tough on *crime* = leaders who work hard to fight *crime* ▪ He turned to a ***life of crime*** [=he became a criminal] as a teenager. ▪ He has links to ***organized crime***. [=a group of professional criminals who work together as part of a powerful and secret organization] ▪ the recent increase in ***violent crime*** — often used before another noun ▪ high *crime* rates ▪ *crime* novels/stories ▪ We found your wallet at the ***crime scene***. [=the place where a crime happened] ▪ a ***crime wave*** [=a sudden increase in the amount of crime in an area] ✧ Someone's ***partner in crime*** is a person who helps someone commit a crime. ▪ He was her *partner in crime* for most of the robberies.

3 [*singular*] : an act that is foolish or wrong ▪ It's a *crime* [=*sin*] to let food go to waste. ▪ Being single is not a *crime*. ▪ There's no greater *crime* than forgetting your anniversary.

crime against humanity : a very cruel or terrible illegal act that is directed against a group of people ▪ The country's former leader was tried for *crimes against humanity*.

[1]crim•i•nal /ˈkrɪmənl/ *adj*

1 : involving illegal activity : relating to crime ▪ committing *criminal* acts/activities ▪ a *criminal* organization ▪ a history of *criminal* behavior ▪ We're trying to understand how the ***criminal mind*** [=the mind of someone who commits crimes] works. ▪ The captain of the wrecked boat was accused of ***criminal negligence***.

2 *always used before a noun* : relating to laws that describe crimes rather than to laws about a person's rights ▪ the *criminal* justice system ▪ a *criminal* court/case/trial ▪ *criminal* proceedings ▪ *criminal* lawyers [=lawyers who represent people accused of a crime] ▪ The company brought/filed *criminal* charges against her. ▪ Using this drug is a *criminal* offense. [=it is illegal to use this drug] ▪ The police are conducting a *criminal* investigation. [=they are investigating a crime] — compare CIVIL 5; see also CRIMINAL LAW

3 *not used before a noun* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : morally wrong ▪ It's *criminal* that the government is doing nothing to stop the problem. — often used in a joking way to say that someone should not do something ▪ In my opinion, it would be *criminal* to miss seeing this movie. [=I think everyone should see this movie]

– **crim•i•nal•i•ty** /ˌkrɪməˈnæləti/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the *criminality* of his actions – **crim•i•nal•ly** *adv* ▪ *criminally* liable/responsible

[2]criminal *noun, pl* **-nals** [*count*] : a person who has committed a crime or who has been proved to be guilty of a crime by a court ▪ She's a convicted *criminal*. ▪ violent/white-collar/common *criminals* ▪ a hardened *criminal* ▪ ***career criminals*** [=people who have committed many crimes throughout their lives]

crim•i•nal•ize *also Brit* **crim•i•nal•ise** /ˈkrɪmənlˌaɪz/ *verb* **-iz•es**; **-ized**; **-iz•ing** [+ *obj*] : to make (something) illegal ▪ a law that *criminalized* alcohol — opposite LEGALIZE

– **crim•i•nal•i•za•tion** *also Brit* **crim•i•nal•i•sa•tion** /ˌkrɪmənlələˈzeɪʃən, *Brit* ˌkrɪmənlˌaɪˈzeɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the *criminalization* of alcohol

criminal law *noun* [*noncount*] : laws that deal with crimes and their punishments — compare CIVIL LAW

criminal record *noun, pl* ~ **-cords** [*count*] : a known record of having been arrested in the past for committing a crime ▪ Do you have a *criminal record*? [=have you ever been arrested for a crime?] ▪ someone with no *criminal record* — called also *record*

crim•i•nol•o•gy /ˌkrɪməˈnɑːlədʒi/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the study of crime, criminals, and the punishment of criminals ▪ a professor of *criminology*

– **crim•i•nol•o•gist** /ˌkrɪməˈnɑːlədʒɪst/ *noun, pl* **-gists** [*count*]

[1]crimp /ˈkrɪmp/ *verb* **crimps**; **crimped**; **crimp•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to make the surface or edge of (hair, cloth, metal, etc.) have many small waves or folds ▪ She *crimps* her hair with a curling iron. ▪ *Crimp* the edges of the pie crust with a fork.

2 : to press (parts or pieces) tightly together ▪ *Crimp* the pieces of foil together.

3 *US* : to prevent (something) from happening or proceeding in the usual or desired way ▪ economic problems that have been *crimping* [=*putting a crimp in*] sales in the computer industry

[2]crimp *noun, pl* **crimps** [*count*] : a small wave or fold in the surface of something (such as hair or cloth)

put a crimp in *US* : to prevent (something) from happening or proceeding in the usual or desired way : to affect (something) badly ▪ The storm *put a crimp in* our travel plans. ▪ The extra expenses *put a crimp in* the company's budget.

crim•son /ˈkrɪmzən/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a deep purplish-red color — see color picture on page C3

– **crimson** *adj* ▪ a *crimson* dress

cringe /ˈkrɪnʤ/ *verb* **cring•es**; **cringed**; **cring•ing** [*no obj*]

1 : to feel disgust or embarrassment and often to show this feeling by a movement of your face or body ▪ Many English teachers *cringe* when their students use the word "ain't." ▪ I always *cringe* when I hear that song. ▪ Just the thought of eating broccoli makes me *cringe*.

2 : to make a sudden movement from fear of being hit or hurt ▪ The dog *cringed* at the noise.

[1]crin•kle /ˈkrɪŋkəl/ *verb* **crin•kles**; **crin•kled**; **crin•kling** : to form small, thin lines on the surface [*no obj*] The corners of his eyes *crinkle* when he smiles. [+ *obj*] an old *crinkled* newspaper — often + *up* ▪ She *crinkled up* her nose in disgust.

[2]crinkle *noun, pl* **crinkles** [*count*] : a small, thin line that appears on a surface — usually plural ▪ the *crinkles* at the corners of his eyes

– **crin•kly** /ˈkrɪŋkli/ *adj* **crin•kli•er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ dry, *crinkly* leaves ▪ the *crinkly* fabric of her dress

[1]crip•ple /ˈkrɪpəl/ *noun, pl* **crip•ples** [*count*]

1 *old-fashioned* + *offensive* : a person who cannot move or walk normally because of a permanent injury (such as a damaged leg or foot) or other physical problem ▪ He returned from war a *cripple*. ✧ *Cripple* is an old-fashioned word. People now usually use the less offensive term *disabled person*.

2 *informal* : a person who has emotional problems that prevent normal behavior with other people ▪ She's an emotional *cripple*. [=she's unable to express her emotions normally] ▪ social *cripples*

[2]cripple *verb* **cripples**; **crip•pled**; **crip•pling** [+ *obj*]

1 : to cause (a person or animal) to be unable to move or walk normally — usually used as *(be) crippled* ▪ Thousands of people have *been crippled* by the disease. ▪ The car acci-

dent left him *crippled*. [=*disabled*]

2 : to make (something) unable to work normally : to cause great damage to (something) ▪ Higher taxes could *cripple* small businesses. ▪ an economy *crippled* by inflation ▪ The disease *cripples* the body's immune system. [=it makes the body unable to heal itself]

– **crippling** *adj* ▪ *crippling* diseases ▪ the *crippling* effects of the disease ▪ the *crippling* effects of inflation

cri•sis /'kraɪsəs/ *noun, pl* **-ses** /-ˌsi:z/ : a difficult or dangerous situation that needs serious attention [*count*] the AIDS *crisis* ▪ She was dealing with a family *crisis* at the time. ▪ Most people blame the government for the country's worsening economic/financial/fiscal *crisis*. ▪ last year's state budget *crisis* ▪ an energy/fuel/water *crisis* [=a time when there is not enough energy/fuel/water] ▪ a ***hostage crisis*** [=a situation in which someone is holding people as hostages] [*noncount*] In times of national *crisis*, we need strong leaders we can trust. ▪ A year ago, both companies were ***in crisis***. — see also IDENTITY CRISIS, MIDLIFE CRISIS

[1]crisp /'krɪsp/ *adj* **crisp•er; -est**

1 a : dry, hard, and easily broken ▪ the pie's deliciously *crisp* [=*crispy*] crust ▪ a *crisp* cookie ▪ The fish is fried until *crisp*. [=until its outer layer is brown and crunchy] ▪ *crisp* bacon **b** : pleasantly firm and making a sharp sound when chewed or crushed ▪ fresh, *crisp* lettuce ▪ *crisp* celery

2 : clean, smooth, and somewhat stiff ▪ I put on a *crisp* shirt and tie. ▪ clean, *crisp* bedsheets ▪ a *crisp* $100 bill

3 : having details that are easily seen or heard ▪ *crisp* black-and-white photographs ▪ The stereo's sound is *crisp* and clear.

4 : pleasantly cool, fresh, and dry ▪ a *crisp* autumn day ▪ *crisp* winter air ▪ She chose a *crisp* white wine for dinner.

5 : moving or speaking quickly and directly ▪ We were impressed by her *crisp*, businesslike manner. ▪ He issued a series of *crisp* commands. ▪ He responded with a *crisp* [=*terse*] "No. Thank you."

6 : done in a very confident and skillful way ▪ a *crisp* tennis serve

– **crisp•ly** *adv* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ *crisply* fried fish ▪ a *crisply* dressed man – **crisp•ness** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the *crispness* of the vegetables

[2]crisp *noun, pl* **crisps**

1 [*count*] : a thin, hard, and usually salty piece of food ▪ corn *crisps*; *especially, Brit* : POTATO CHIP — usually plural ▪ a bag of *crisps*

2 [*count, noncount*] *US* : a dessert made of cooked fruit with a sweet, dry topping ▪ a hot apple *crisp* — called also (*chiefly Brit*) *crumble*

to a crisp : to a state of being hard, dry, and easily broken ▪ The toast had been ***burned to a crisp***.

[3]crisp *verb* **crisps; crisped; crisp•ing** : to make (something) crisp or to become crisp [+ *obj*] *Crisp* the celery in ice water. [*no obj*] The crust *crisped* (up) nicely in the oven.

crispy /'krɪspi/ *adj* **crisp•i•er; -est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~] : pleasantly thin, dry, and easily broken ▪ *crispy* [=*crisp*] crackers : having a pleasantly crisp outer layer ▪ *crispy* fried chicken ▪ Fry the potatoes until they are brown and *crispy*.

– **crisp•i•ness** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the *crispiness* of the potatoes

[1]criss•cross /'krɪsˌkrɑ:s/ *noun* [*singular*] : a pattern that is formed by lines crossing each other ▪ She pointed toward the *crisscross* of trees that had fallen on the path.

– **crisscross** *adj* ▪ a *crisscross* pattern on her dress

[2]crisscross *verb* **-cross•es; -crossed; -cross•ing**

1 : to form a pattern on (something) with lines that cross each other [+ *obj*] Several highways *crisscross* the state. [*no obj*] shoelaces that *crisscross* over the top of the shoe

2 [+ *obj*] : to go from one side of (something) to the other side and come back again ▪ Tourists *crisscrossed* the lake from morning until night. ▪ Scientists have been *crisscrossing* the country to collect data.

cri•te•ri•on /kraɪ'tirijən/ *noun, pl* **-te•ria** /-'tirijə/ [*count*] : something that is used as a reason for making a judgment or decision ▪ High test scores are one *criterion* [=*standard*] used by universities to determine which students to admit. ▪ What were the *criteria* used to choose the winner? — often + *for* ▪ the university's *criteria for* admission ▪ Our main *criterion for* hiring new employees is that they have a lot of past work experience.

crit•ic /'krɪtɪk/ *noun, pl* **-ics** [*count*]

1 : a person who gives opinions about books, movies, or other forms of art ▪ a film/theater/art *critic* ▪ He is an influential literary *critic*. ▪ *Critics* praised the book.

2 : a person who disapproves of someone or something : a person who criticizes someone or something ▪ *Critics* of the new law say that it will not reduce crime. ▪ The actor had to answer many charges from his *critics*. ▪ He is a fierce/loud/outspoken *critic* of tax reform.

crit•i•cal /'krɪtɪkəl/ *adj*

1 [*more* ~; *most* ~] : expressing criticism or disapproval ▪ You're always so *critical*. ▪ They are often *critical* of the mayor's policies. [=they often criticize the mayor's policies]

2 : of or relating to the judgments of critics about books, movies, art, etc. ▪ The book received much *critical* acclaim. [=many critics said good things about the book] ▪ *critical* writings/theory ▪ The movie was a *critical* success [=critics liked the movie], but it didn't make much money.

3 : using or involving careful judgment about the good and bad parts of something ▪ The program presents a *critical* analysis of the government's strategies. ▪ She has a talent for *critical* thinking. ▪ We need to look at these proposed changes ***with a critical eye*** before we accept them.

4 [*more* ~; *most* ~] : extremely important ▪ We have reached a *critical* phase of the experiment. ▪ It is absolutely *critical* [=*vital, essential*] for us to remain together. ▪ This is a matter ***of critical importance*** to the future of our country.

5 [*more* ~; *most* ~] *medical* : relating to or involving a great danger of death ▪ He suffered *critical* injuries in the accident. ▪ The patient is in ***critical condition***. = The patient is *critical*. [=the patient is very sick or injured and may die] ▪ a nurse who specializes in ***critical care*** [=the care of patients who are in critical condition] ▪ patients who are ***on the critical list*** — sometimes used figuratively ▪ a government program that is *on the critical list* [=that is in danger of failing or being eliminated]

– **crit•i•cal•ly** /'krɪtɪkli/ *adv* ▪ He spoke *critically* of the mayor's policies. [=he criticized the mayor's policies] ▪ The movie was *critically* acclaimed. ▪ She taught me to think *critically* about books. ▪ This matter is *critically* important to the future of our country. ▪ a *critically* ill person

critical mass *noun, pl* ~ **masses** [*count, noncount*]

1 *technical* : an amount of material (such as plutonium) that is large enough to allow a nuclear reaction to occur

2 : the size, number, or amount of something that is needed to cause a particular result ▪ Production of the show stopped after complaints from viewers reached (a) *critical mass*.

crit•i•cism /'krɪtəˌsɪzəm/ *noun, pl* **-cisms**

1 [*noncount*] : the act of expressing disapproval and of noting the problems or faults of a person or thing : the act of criticizing someone or something ▪ There was much public *criticism* directed/leveled at the senator. ▪ The new law attracted/drew widespread *criticism*. [=many people criticized the new law] ▪ In this job you need to be able to take/face/accept *criticism*. ▪ I asked my sister for some ***constructive criticism*** of my essay before I tried to revise it. — opposite PRAISE

2 [*count*] : a remark or comment that expresses disapproval of someone or something ▪ I had one minor *criticism* about her design.

3 [*noncount*] : the activity of making careful judgments about the good and bad qualities of books, movies, etc. ▪ literary *criticism*

crit•i•cize *also Brit* **crit•i•cise** /'krɪtəˌsaɪz/ *verb* **-ciz•es; -cized; -ciz•ing**

1 : to express disapproval of (someone or something) : to talk about the problems or faults of (someone or something) [+ *obj*] His boss *criticized* him for his sloppy work habits. ▪ The judge was widely/roundly *criticized* for his verdict. ▪ The editor *criticized* the author's work as trite. [*no obj*] It seems as though all he ever does is *criticize*. — opposite PRAISE

2 [+ *obj*] : to look at and make judgments about (something, such as a piece of writing or a work of art) ▪ He asked me to *criticize* [=*critique*] his drawings.

[1]cri•tique /krə'ti:k/ *noun, pl* **-tiques** [*count*] : a careful judgment in which you give your opinion about the good and bad parts of something (such as a piece of writing or a work of art) ▪ She wrote a radical *critique* of the philosopher's early essays. ▪ They gave a fair and honest *critique* of her art.

[2]critique *verb* **-tiques; -tiqued; -tiqu•ing** [+ *obj*] : to express your opinion about the good and bad parts of (something) : to give a critique of (something) ▪ The class convened to *critique* the student's latest painting.

crit•ter /'krɪtə/ *noun, pl* **-ters** [*count*] *US, informal* : a usually small creature or animal ▪ The woods are filled with

skunks, raccoons, and other *critters*.

croak /ˈkroʊk/ *verb* **croaks**; **croaked**; **croak·ing**
1 [*no obj*] : to make the deep, harsh sound that a frog makes ▪ We could hear the frogs *croaking* by the pond.
2 : to say (something) in a rough, low voice that is hard to understand [+ *obj*] The man could only *croak* his name. [*no obj*] He tried to speak but could barely *croak*.
3 [*no obj*] *slang* : to die ▪ He had a heart attack and *croaked*.
– **croak** *noun, pl* **croaks** [*count*] ▪ the *croaks* of the frogs

croc /ˈkrɑːk/ *noun, pl* **crocs** [*count*] *informal* : CROCODILE 1

cro·chet /kroʊˈʃeɪ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a method of making cloth or clothing by using a needle with a hook at the end to form and weave loops in a thread ▪ She learned basic *crochet* stitches from her mother. ▪ a *crochet* hook — see picture at SEWING
– **crochet** *verb* **-chets**; **-cheted**; **-chet·ing** [+ *obj*] She *crocheted* an afghan. [*no obj*] She enjoys *crocheting*.
– **cro·chet·er** /kroʊˈʃeɪjɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

[1]crock /ˈkrɑːk/ *noun, pl* **crocks**
1 [*count*] : a pot or jar made of baked clay ▪ chili served in a *crock*
2 [*singular*] *US, informal* : something that is impossible to believe because it is untrue or ridiculous ▪ We could tell that the salesman's claims about his product were a *crock*. ▪ She thinks horoscopes are a *crock*. ✧ This use of *crock* comes from its use in phrases with similar meanings such as ***a crock of baloney*** or (*offensive*) ***a crock of shit***.
– compare [2]CROCK

[2]crock *noun, pl* **crocks** [*count*] *Brit, informal* : an old, ill, or unhappy person ▪ He's an old *crock* who complains about everything. — compare [1]CROCK

crocked /ˈkrɑːkt/ *adj, not used before a noun* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *US slang* : very drunk or intoxicated ▪ He was half-*crocked* when he came home.

crock·ery /ˈkrɑːkəri/ *noun* [*noncount*]
1 *US* : pots or jars made of baked clay used for cooking : EARTHENWARE
2 *chiefly Brit* : plates, dishes, and cups used in dining

croc·o·dile /ˈkrɑːkəˌdajəl/ *noun, pl* **-diles**
1 a [*count*] : a large reptile that has a long body, thick skin, and a long, thin mouth with sharp teeth and that lives in the water in regions with hot weather — see picture at ALLIGATOR **b** [*noncount*] : the skin of the crocodile used for making shoes and others products — often used before another noun ▪ a *crocodile* purse
2 [*count*] *Brit* : a line of people and especially of schoolchildren who are walking in pairs

crocodile tears *noun* [*plural*] : a false expression of sadness or regret about something ▪ The company shed/cried *crocodile tears* for the workers who were laid off. ✧ The phrase *crocodile tears* comes from the belief that crocodiles make false sounds of distress to attract the animals that they kill and eat.

cro·cus /ˈkroʊkəs/ *noun, pl* **-cus·es** [*count*] : a small purple, yellow, or white flower that blooms in the early spring

croft /ˈkrɑːft/ *noun, pl* **crofts** [*count*] *Brit* : a small farm usually with a house on it in Scotland

croft·er /ˈkrɑːftɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *Brit* : a person who owns or works on a croft

crois·sant /krəˈsɑːnt, *Brit* ˈkwɑːsɒŋ/ *noun, pl* **-sants** [*count*] : a type of roll that has a curved shape and that is usually eaten at breakfast — see picture at BAKING

crone /ˈkroʊn/ *noun, pl* **crones** [*count*] *literary* : a cruel or ugly old woman ▪ The old *crone* lived alone.

cro·ny /ˈkroʊni/ *noun, pl* **-nies** [*count*] *disapproving* : a close friend of someone; *especially* : a friend of someone powerful (such as a politician) who is unfairly given special treatment or favors ▪ The mayor rewarded his *cronies* with high-paying jobs after he was elected.

cro·ny·ism /ˈkroʊniˌɪzəm/ *noun* [*noncount*] *disapproving* : the unfair practice by a powerful person (such as a politician) of giving jobs and other favors to friends ▪ The mayor has been accused of *cronyism*.

[1]crook /ˈkrʊk/ *noun, pl* **crooks** [*count*]
1 *informal* **a** : a dishonest person ▪ He thinks politicians are just a bunch of *crooks*. **b** : a criminal ▪ a small-time *crook*
2 a : the place where part of the body (such as an arm, leg, or finger) bends ▪ the *crook* of his arm **b** : a curved or hooked part of something ▪ The squirrel sat in the *crook* of the tree. ▪ the *crook* of the cane
3 : a long stick with one end curved into a hook that is used by a shepherd
by hook or by crook see [1]HOOK

[2]crook *verb* **crooks**; **crooked**; **crook·ing** [+ *obj*] : to bend (your finger, neck, or arm) ▪ He *crooked* his finger at us and led us to the table.

crook·ed /ˈkrʊkəd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : not straight ▪ a *crooked* smile/grin : having bends and curves ▪ a *crooked* path
2 : not set or placed straight ▪ a *crooked* tooth ▪ The picture is *crooked*.
3 *informal* **a** : not honest ▪ *crooked* [=*corrupt, dishonest*] politicians **b** : done to trick or deceive someone ▪ a *crooked* card game
– **crook·ed·ly** *adv* ▪ The picture hung *crookedly*. – **crook·ed·ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

croon /ˈkruːn/ *verb* **croons**; **crooned**; **croon·ing** : to sing (a song) in a low soft voice [+ *obj*] *croon* a lullaby [*no obj*] The mother *crooned* as she rocked the baby.

croon·er /ˈkruːnɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a male singer who sings slow, romantic songs in a soft, smooth voice

[1]crop /ˈkrɑːp/ *noun, pl* **crops**
1 [*count*] **a** : a plant or plant product that is grown by farmers ▪ corn *crops* ▪ an apple *crop* ▪ Tobacco is their main *crop*. ▪ They sprayed the *crops* with a pesticide. — sometimes used before another noun ▪ *Crop* production was low last year because of the lack of rain. ▪ *crop* disease/damage — see also CASH CROP **b** [*count*] : the amount of a crop that is gathered at one time or in one season ▪ The second *crop* [=*harvest*] was not as good as the first. ▪ The drought caused a fall in this year's corn *crop*. [=the drought caused the amount of corn grown this year to be lower than it was last year] ▪ We produced a ***bumper crop*** of tomatoes [=a very large crop of tomatoes] this year.
2 [*singular*] **a** : a group of people who begin to do something at the same time ▪ The teachers got ready for a new *crop* of students. **b** : a group of things that happen or are produced at the same time ▪ a new *crop* of horror movies ✧ People or things that are ***the cream of the crop*** are the best of their kind or in their group. ▪ There were many good candidates for the job, but he was *the cream of the crop*.
3 [*count*] : a short whip used in horse riding ▪ a riding *crop* — see picture at HORSE
4 [*count*] : a short and thick quantity of hair on a person's head ▪ He has a thick *crop* of hair. ▪ a *crop* of red, curly hair
5 [*count*] : an area in the throat of a bird where food is stored for a time

[2]crop *verb* **crops**; **cropped**; **crop·ping**
1 [+ *obj*] : to cut off the upper or outer parts of (something) ▪ *crop* [=*trim*] a hedge [=make a hedge neat by cutting it] ▪ *crop* a dog's ears
2 [+ *obj*] : to cut off part of (a picture or photograph) ▪ The picture was *cropped* badly. ▪ We had to *crop* the image to fit it into the frame.
3 [+ *obj*] : to cut (someone's hair) short ▪ Her hair was *cropped* short. ▪ closely *cropped* hair
4 [+ *obj*] : to bite off and eat the tops of (grass or plants) ▪ The sheep were *cropping* the grass in the meadow.
5 [*no obj*] : to produce or make a crop ▪ The apple trees *cropped* well.
crop up [*phrasal verb*] : to come or appear when not expected ▪ New problems *crop up* every day. ▪ His name *crops up* frequently as a potential candidate.

crop circle *noun, pl* ~ **circles** [*count*] : a large round shape or pattern in a field that is made by cutting or flattening grass or crops ✧ Some people believe that crop circles are made by creatures that come from another world.

crop·land /ˈkrɑːpˌlænd/ *noun, pl* **-lands** : land on which crops are grown [*plural*] plowing the *croplands* [*noncount*] acres of *cropland*

crop·per /ˈkrɑːpɚ/ *noun*
come a cropper *informal* **1** : to fail completely in a sudden or unexpected way ▪ Her careful plan *came a cropper*. **2** *Brit* : to have a very bad fall ▪ He *came a cropper* on the ski slopes.

cro·quet /kroʊˈkeɪ, *Brit* ˈkrəʊkeɪ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a game in which players use wooden mallets to hit balls through a series of curved wires that are stuck into the ground

cro·quette /kroʊˈkɛt/ *noun, pl* **-quettes** [*count*] : a roll or ball of meat, fish, or vegetables that is covered with egg and bread crumbs and fried in oil ▪ chicken *croquettes*

[1]cross /ˈkrɑːs/ *noun, pl* **cross·es**

1 a [*count*] : a long piece of wood with a shorter piece across it near the top that people were once fastened to and left to die on as a form of punishment **b** ***the Cross*** : the cross on which Jesus Christ died **c** [*count*] : an object or image in the shape of a cross that is used as a symbol of Christianity ▪ a necklace with a gold *cross* — see also SIGN OF THE CROSS

2 [*count*] : a decoration in the shape of a cross that is given to someone as an honor especially for military courage

3 [*count*] : a mark formed by two lines that cross each other ▪ The teacher marked the absent students on her list with *crosses*. ▪ Those who could not write signed their names with a *cross*.

4 [*count*] : a mixture of two different things, types, or qualities ▪ Snowboarding is a *cross* between surfing and skiing. ▪ The play is a *cross* between comedy and romance. ▪ The dog is a *cross* of hunting dog and sheepdog.

5 [*count*] *boxing* : a punch that goes over an opponent's punch ▪ a right *cross*

6 [*count*] *soccer* : a kick or hit of the ball that goes across the field from one side to another or to the middle of the field

cross to bear : a problem that causes trouble or worry for someone over a long period of time ▪ We all have our *crosses to bear*. [=we all have problems to deal with] ▪ The loss was a heavy *cross to bear*. [=the loss was hard to deal with]

[2]cross *verb* **crosses; crossed; cross•ing**

1 : to go from one side of (something) to the other : to go across (something) [+ *obj*] We *crossed* the state border hours ago. ▪ The dog *crossed* the street. ▪ The highway *crosses* the entire state. ▪ He was the first runner to *cross* the finish line. [*no obj*] The train *crosses* through France.

2 : to go or pass across each other [*no obj*] the point at which two lines *cross* [=*intersect*] ▪ Put a nail where the boards *cross*. [+ *obj*] One line *crossed* the other.

3 [+ *obj*] : to place one arm, leg, etc., over the other ▪ *cross* your arms/legs/fingers ✧ If you ***cross your fingers*** or ***keep your fingers crossed***, you hope that you will be lucky and that something you want to happen will happen. ▪ I *crossed my fingers* and hoped that I would be chosen. ▪ *Keep your fingers crossed*. I just sent out my college applications.

4 [+ *obj*] : to draw a line across (something) ▪ Remember to *cross* your *t*'s. [=to put a line across the top of the letter "t" when you write it] — see also *dot your i's and cross your t's* at [2]DOT

5 [*no obj*] : to pass in opposite directions ▪ Our letters *crossed* in the mail. [=my letter was going to you while your letter was coming to me]

6 [+ *obj*] : to turn (your eyes) inward toward your nose ▪ He *crossed* his eyes.

7 [+ *obj*] : to act against the wishes, plans, or orders of (someone) ▪ My boss is usually nice, but she has a terrible temper and you don't want to *cross* her. — see also DOUBLE-CROSS, STAR-CROSSED

8 [+ *obj*] **a** : to make two different kinds of animals breed together ▪ The breeders *crossed* [=*crossbred, interbred*] the bison with domestic cattle. — often used figuratively to describe someone or something that combines the qualities of two different people or things ▪ As our leader, she was like a drill sergeant *crossed* with a camp counselor. **b** : to mix two kinds of plants to form a new one ▪ The farmers *crossed* two different types of corn together.

9 [*no obj*] *soccer* : to kick or hit the ball sideways across the field — + *to* ▪ He *crossed to* his teammate.

cross my heart ✧ The phrases ***cross my heart*** or ***cross my heart and hope to die*** are used in informal speech to stress that you are telling the truth and will do what you promise. ▪ I'll clean my room tomorrow—*cross my heart*. [=I promise that I'll clean my room tomorrow]

cross off [*phrasal verb*] ***cross (someone or something) off*** *or* ***cross off (someone or something)*** : to draw a line through (a name or item on a list) ▪ They *crossed off* the names of the people who had already been invited. ▪ We can *cross* her *off* our list of potential donors.

cross out [*phrasal verb*] ***cross (something) out*** *or* ***cross out (something)*** : to draw a line through (something) to show that it is wrong ▪ *cross out* a mistake

cross over [*phrasal verb*] ***cross over*** *or* ***cross over (something)*** **1** : to move or go from one side of (something) to the other ▪ The deer *crossed over* to the other side of the river. ▪ The bridge *crosses over* the river. **2** : to change from one type of character or condition to another ▪ People were *crossing over* to vote for the other party's candidate. [=people in one political party were voting for the other party's candidate] ▪ The singer *crossed over* from country to pop. [=the singer changed his style of music from country to pop] — see also CROSSOVER

cross paths ✧ When people ***cross paths*** or when their ***paths cross***, they meet each other at a time that was not planned or expected. ▪ After they left college, it was many years before they *crossed paths* again. = It was many years before their *paths crossed* again. ▪ I ***crossed paths with*** an old friend on a business trip.

cross someone's face : to appear briefly on someone's face ▪ A smile *crossed her face*.

cross someone's mind : to come into someone's mind : to be thought of by someone ▪ Losing never *crossed her mind*. [=she was sure that she would win] ▪ Did it ever *cross your mind* that I could be right?

cross swords : to fight or argue — often + *with* ▪ I didn't want to *cross swords with* him about who was right.

cross that bridge when you come to it see [1]BRIDGE

cross the line : to go beyond what is proper or acceptable ▪ Her criticism *crossed the line* from helpful to just plain hurtful. ▪ The magazine *crossed the line* when they printed the nude photos.

cross up [*phrasal verb*] *US* **1 *cross (someone) up*** *or* ***cross up (someone)*** : to make (someone) confused ▪ The team *crossed up* their opponent by throwing the ball instead of running it. **2 *cross (something) up*** *or* ***cross up (something)*** : to ruin (something) completely ▪ His failure to meet the deadline *crossed up* the deal.

cross yourself : to make the sign of the cross on your head and chest ▪ I *crossed myself* as I entered the church.

– cross•er *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

[3]cross *adj* **cross•er; -est** : annoyed or angry ▪ I didn't mean to make you *cross*. ▪ I was *cross* with her for being so careless.

– cross•ly *adv* ▪ "Stop teasing your sister," she said *crossly*.

cross•bar /ˈkrɑːsˌbɑɚ/ *noun, pl* **-bars** [*count*]

1 : a bar that joins two posts (such as goalposts in soccer or hockey)

2 : the bar that goes between the seat and the handlebars of a bicycle — see picture at BICYCLE

crossbones see SKULL AND CROSSBONES

cross•bow /ˈkrɑːsˌboʊ/ *noun, pl* **-bows** [*count*] : a weapon that shoots arrows and that consists of a short bow attached to a longer piece of wood

cross•breed /ˈkrɑːsˌbriːd/ *verb* **-breeds; -bred** /-ˌbrɛd/; **-breed•ing**

1 : to make two different kinds of animal breed together [+ *obj*] *crossbreed* [=*cross, interbreed*] sheep [*no obj*] Some birds may *crossbreed* [=*interbreed*] freely with other species.

2 [+ *obj*] : to mix two kinds of plant to form a new one ▪ *crossbreed* [=*cross*] wheat and rye

– crossbred *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ *crossbred* [=*hybrid*] sheep/roses **– crossbreed** *noun, pl* **-breeds** [*count*]

cross–check /ˈkrɑːsˌʧɛk/ *verb* **-checks; -checked; -check•ing** [+ *obj*] : to use a different source or method to check (something, such as information or calculations) ▪ I *cross-checked* the changes against the original copy. [=I looked at the original copy to make sure that the changes were correct] ▪ You should *cross-check* your answers with a calculator.

– cross–check *noun, pl* **-checks** [*count*]

[1]cross–coun•try /ˈkrɑːsˈkʌntri/ *adj, always used before a noun*

1 : going or moving across a country ▪ a *cross-country* railroad ▪ a *cross-country* concert tour

2 : going over the countryside rather than by roads or over a track ▪ They ran in a *cross-country* race.

3 : relating to or used in a kind of skiing that is done over the countryside instead of down a mountain ▪ *cross-country* skiing ▪ *cross-country* skis ▪ a *cross-country* champion/competition — compare [2]DOWNHILL 3

– cross–country *adv* ▪ We traveled *cross-country*.

[2]cross–country *noun* [*noncount*] : cross-country skiing or racing ▪ She has done *cross-country* for 10 years. ▪ He won a medal in *cross-country*.

cross•court /ˈkrɑːsˈkoɚt/ *adv* : to or toward the opposite side of a tennis or basketball court ▪ She hit/passed the ball *crosscourt*.

– crosscourt *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ a *crosscourt* pass/shot

cross–cul•tur•al /ˈkrɑːsˈkʌlʧərəl/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : relating to or involving two or more different cultures or

countries ▪ a *cross-cultural* study ▪ a menu featuring *cross-cultural* cuisine

– **cross–cul·tur·al·ly** *adv*

cross·cur·rent /ˈkrɑːsˌkərənt/ *noun, pl* **-rents** [*count*] : a current of water that flows against or across the main current — sometimes used figuratively ▪ the political *crosscurrents* that interfere with the passing of laws

cross–curricular *adj, Brit* : relating to or involving different courses offered by a school ▪ *cross-curricular* activities

cross–dress·ing /ˈkrɑːsˌdrɛsɪŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the act or practice of wearing clothes made for the opposite sex

– **cross–dress·er** /ˈkrɑːsˌdrɛsɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

cross–ex·am·ine /ˈkrɑːsɪgˈzæmən/ *verb* **-ines**; **-ined**; **-in·ing** [+ *obj*] *law* : to ask more questions of (a witness who has been questioned by another lawyer) ▪ The defendant's attorney *cross-examined* the witness and tried to show that his earlier testimony was false.

– **cross–ex·am·i·na·tion** /ˈkrɑːsɪgˌzæməˈneɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ While he was under *cross-examination*, the defendant admitted that he had lied earlier in court.

– **cross–ex·am·in·er** /ˈkrɑːsɪgˈzæmənɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] ▪ This lawyer is a tough *cross-examiner*.

cross–eyed /ˈkrɑːsˌaɪd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : having one or both eyes turned inward toward the nose ▪ a *cross-eyed* drunk ▪ He gave her a *cross-eyed* look.

– **cross–eyed** *adv* ▪ He looked at her *cross-eyed*.

cross–fer·til·ize *also Brit* **cross–fer·til·ise** /ˈkrɑːsˈfɚtəˌlaɪz/ *verb* **-liz·es**; **-lized**; **-liz·ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to combine sex cells from (two separate plants) to produce a new plant ▪ Scientists *cross-fertilized* the two plants.

2 : to combine (two different ideas, style, etc.) in a good or creative way ▪ a musical style that *cross-fertilizes* jazz and rock

– **cross–fer·til·i·za·tion** *also Brit* **cross–fer·til·i·sation** /ˈkrɑːsˌfɚtələˈzeɪʃən, *Brit* ˈkrɒsˌfəːtəˌlaɪˈzeɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*]

cross·fire /ˈkrɑːsˌfajɚ/ *noun* [*singular*] : shots that come from two or more places so that the bullets cross through the same area ▪ Several civilians were killed in the *crossfire* during the battle. ▪ The war volunteers were at risk of being caught in the *crossfire*. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ She was caught in the *crossfire* between her quarrelling sisters. [=she became involved in the quarrel between her sisters and they became angry at her] ▪ a presidential candidate who has become caught in a political *crossfire* after making comments that angered both liberals and conservatives

cross·hair /ˈkrɑːsˌheɚ/ *noun, pl* **-hairs** [*count*] : a very thin wire or thread that is seen when you look into a microscope, telescope, etc., and that is used for precisely viewing or aiming at something

in the crosshairs : being aimed at by a gun (such as a rifle) that has an aiming device with crosshairs — often used figuratively ▪ The senator's voting record was *in the crosshairs* of his political rivals. [=was being targeted by his political rivals]

cross·hatch /ˈkrɑːsˌhætʃ/ *verb* **-hatch·es**; **-hatched**; **-hatch·ing** [+ *obj*] : to mark or draw (something) with sets of lines that cross each other ▪ The fields were *crosshatched* by plowed paths.

– **cross–hatching** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ The artist used *cross-hatching* to fill in the shaded areas.

cross·ing /ˈkrɑːsɪŋ/ *noun, pl* **-ings** [*count*]

1 : a place where two things (such as a street and a railroad track) cross each other ▪ Stop at the railroad *crossing*. ▪ Federal agents questioned us at the border *crossing*. [=the place where people go across the border between two countries]

2 : a place where you can cross a street, stream, etc. ▪ a *crossing* for ferry boats — see picture at STREET; see also PEDESTRIAN CROSSING, PELICAN CROSSING, ZEBRA CROSSING

3 a : the act of going across something ▪ the *crossing* of a mountain range **b** : a voyage across water ▪ a weeklong *crossing* of the Atlantic Ocean

crossing guard *noun, pl* ~ **guards** [*count*] : a person whose job is to help people (such as schoolchildren) go across busy streets safely

cross–legged /ˈkrɑːsˌlɛgəd/ *adj* : having the legs crossed ▪ She curled up into a *cross-legged* position.

– **cross–legged** *adv* ▪ She sat *cross-legged*. ▪ The kids sat on the floor *cross-legged*. [=with their legs crossed and their knees spread wide apart]

cross·over /ˈkrɑːsˌoʊvɚ/ *noun, pl* **-overs** [*count*] : a change from one style or type of activity to another ▪ The actor made a smooth *crossover* to politics. ▪ a rock musician's *crossovers* into jazz and soul music — often used before another noun ▪ a successful *crossover* artist/star/celebrity ▪ a romantic movie that has *crossover* appeal to fans of science fiction — see also *cross over* at ²CROSS

cross·piece /ˈkrɑːsˌpiːs/ *noun, pl* **-piec·es** [*count*] : something (such as a piece of wood) that is placed or that lies across something else ▪ The carpenter attached a *crosspiece* to each side of the frame to give extra support to the roof.

cross–pol·li·nate /ˈkrɑːsˈpɑːləˌneɪt/ *verb* **-nates**; **-nated**; **-nat·ing** [+ *obj*]

1 *botany* : to move pollen from one flower to another

2 : CROSS-FERTILIZE 2 ▪ *cross-pollinating* different musical styles

– **cross–pol·li·na·tion** /ˌkrɑːsˌpɑːləˈneɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*]

cross–pur·pos·es /ˈkrɑːsˈpɚpəsəz/ *noun*

at cross-purposes : in a way that causes confusion or failure because people are working or talking with different goals or purposes ▪ We'll never succeed together if we continue to work *at cross-purposes* (with each other). ▪ It became clear that they were talking *at cross-purposes*.

cross–re·fer /ˌkrɑːsrɪˈfɚ/ *verb* **-fers**; **-ferred**; **-fer·ring** : to direct a reader to more information that can be found in another place [+ *obj*] The entry for "gram" *cross-refers* you to a table of weights. [*no obj*] The entry *cross-refers* to a table of weights.

¹cross–ref·er·ence /ˈkrɑːsˈrɛfrəns/ *noun, pl* **-enc·es** [*count*] : a note in a book (such as a dictionary) that tells you where to look for more information ▪ The almanac includes *cross-references* to a map and timeline for each country.

²cross–reference *verb* **-ences**; **-enced**; **-enc·ing**

1 [+ *obj*] : to supply (something, such as a book) with cross-references ▪ The book is heavily *cross-referenced*.

2 : CROSS-REFER [*no obj*] The article on alligators in the encyclopedia *cross-references* to the entry on crocodiles. [+ *obj*] The census figures are *cross-referenced* to more detailed information about each state.

cross·road /ˈkrɑːsˌroʊd/ *noun, pl* **-roads** [*count*]

1 : a place where two or more roads cross ▪ Traffic was stopped at the *crossroad*. — often plural in form ▪ They arrived at a *crossroads* marked by a signpost. — often used figuratively to refer to a place or time at which a decision must be made ▪ The industry is at a critical *crossroad*. ▪ We've reached a *crossroads* [=*turning point*] in our relationship.

2 : a road that crosses a main road or that runs across land between main roads ▪ We turned onto a *crossroad*.

cross section *noun, pl* ~ **-tions**

1 : a view or drawing that shows what the inside of something looks like after a cut has been made across it [*count*] a detailed *cross section* of the human brain [*noncount*] The drawing showed the human brain ***in cross section***.

2 [*count*] : a small group that includes examples of the different types of people or things in a larger group ▪ The class surveyed a *cross section* of the student body. ▪ The people in our neighborhood are/form a representative *cross section* of American society.

– **cross–sec·tion·al** /ˈkrɑːsˈsɛkʃənəl/ *adj* ▪ a *cross-sectional* view of the brain

cross–stitch /ˈkrɑːsˌstɪtʃ/ *noun, pl* **-stitch·es** [*count*] : a stitch in the shape of an X ▪ The blouse had *cross-stitches* around the neckline.

cross·town /ˈkrɑːsˈtaʊn/ *adj, always used before a noun*

1 : located on different sides of a town or city ▪ The two schools were *crosstown* rivals in baseball.

2 : going across a town or city ▪ We rode a *crosstown* bus. ▪ *crosstown* traffic

– **crosstown** *adv* ▪ He drove *crosstown* to pick up his daughter.

cross·walk /ˈkrɑːsˌwɑːk/ *noun, pl* **-walks** [*count*] *US* : a marked path where people can safely walk across a street or road — called also *pedestrian crossing*; see picture at STREET

cross·wind /ˈkrɑːsˌwɪnd/ *noun, pl* **-winds** [*count*] : a wind that blows across the direction that something (such as an airplane) is moving in

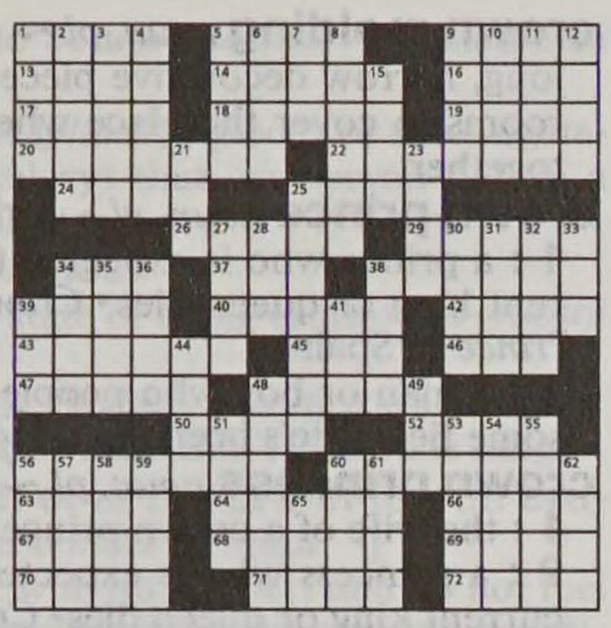
¹cross·wise /ˈkrɑːsˌwaɪz/ *adv* : from one side or corner to the other : ACROSS ▪ Cut the potato *crosswise* rather than lengthwise into thin slices.

²crosswise *adj*

1 : going from one side or corner to another ▪ a *crosswise* cut

2 *US, informal* : involved in a conflict or disagreement ▪ He ***got crosswise*** with his boss and nearly lost his job.

cross•word puzzle /ˈkrɑːsˌwɚd-/ *noun, pl* ~ **puzzles** [*count*] : a puzzle in which words that are the answers to clues are written into a pattern of numbered squares that go across and down ▪ My father does the *crossword puzzle* every morning. — called also *crossword*



crossword puzzle

crotch /ˈkrɑːʧ/ *noun, pl* **crotch•es** [*count*] : the part of the body where the legs join together; *also* : the part of a piece of clothing that covers this part of the body ▪ the *crotch* of the pants/shorts/pajamas — called also (*Brit*) *crutch* /ˈkrʌʧ/

crotch•et /ˈkrɑːʧət/ *noun, pl* **-ets** [*count*] *Brit* : QUARTER NOTE

crotch•ety /ˈkrɑːʧəti/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : often annoyed and angry : GROUCHY ▪ None of the students dared to talk back to the *crotchety* old teacher.

crouch /ˈkraʊʧ/ *verb* **crouch•es**; **crouched**; **crouch•ing** [*no obj*]
1 : to lower your body to the ground by bending your legs ▪ She *crouched* down, trying to get a closer look at the spider. — see picture at POSITION
2 *of an animal* : to lie on the stomach close to the ground with the legs bent ▪ The lion *crouched* in the tall grass, waiting to attack the gazelle.
– **crouch** *noun, pl* **crouches** [*count*] ▪ The runner was in a tense *crouch*, waiting for the signal to start the race.
– **crouched** *adj* ▪ a *crouched* position

croup /ˈkruːp/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a sickness that young children sometimes get that makes them cough a lot and have trouble breathing
– **croupy** /ˈkruːpi/ *adj* ▪ a *croupy* cough

crou•pi•er /ˈkruːpijɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a person whose job is to collect and pay out money in a casino

crou•ton /ˈkruːˌtɑːn/ *noun, pl* **-tons** [*count*] : a small piece of bread that is toasted or fried until it is crisp ✧ Croutons are usually served on salads or in soups.

[1]crow /ˈkroʊ/ *noun, pl* **crows** [*count*]
1 : a large black bird that has a loud and harsh cry — see color picture on page C9
2 ***Crow*** : a member of a Native American people of the western U.S.
as the crow flies : in a straight line ▪ They live about three miles from here *as the crow flies*, though the actual drive is more like six (miles).
eat crow see EAT
– compare [2]CROW; see also JIM CROW

[2]crow *noun, pl* **crows** [*count*] : the loud, high sound a rooster makes or a similar sound ▪ the cock's/rooster's loud *crow* ▪ The boy gave a little *crow* of delight when he mastered the puzzle. — compare [1]CROW

[3]crow *verb* **crows**; **crowed**; **crow•ing**
1 [*no obj*] : to make the loud, high sound that a rooster makes or a similar sound ▪ The cock/rooster *crowed* as the sun began to rise. ▪ The boy *crowed* with delight.
2 : to talk in a way that shows too much pride about something you have done : to brag loudly or joyfully [*no obj*] The rest of us were sick of hearing her *crow* about/over her success. [+ *obj*] "I've won three times in a row," he *crowed*. = He *crowed* that he had won three times in a row.

crow•bar /ˈkroʊˌbɑɚ/ *noun, pl* **-bars** [*count*] : a metal bar that has a thin flat edge at one end and is used to open or lift things

[1]crowd /ˈkraʊd/ *verb* **crowds**; **crowd•ed**; **crowd•ing**
1 a [+ *obj*] : to fill (something) so that there is little or no room for anyone or anything else : to take up much or most of the space in (an area or space) ▪ College students *crowded* [=*packed*] the little bar on the night of the poetry reading. ▪ Boxes *crowded* the floor of my apartment. ▪ There are too many products *crowding* the market. ▪ The hall was *crowded* [=*crammed, packed*] with scientists from around the world ▪ streets *crowded* with traffic **b** [+ *obj*] : to push or force (something) *into* a small space ▪ The club has been accused of *crowding* too many people *into* too small a space. **c** [*no obj*] : to move into a small space — + *into* or *onto* ▪ The four of us *crowded into* a little booth at the restaurant. ▪ We *crowded onto* the bus.
2 [+ *obj*] : to form a tight group around (something or someone) ▪ Several horses were *crowding* [=*crowding around*] the water trough. ▪ By the end of the 10th mile, three bicyclists were *crowding* the racer in front.
3 [+ *obj*] *chiefly US* : to stand very close or too close to (someone or something) ▪ Please move back. You're *crowding* me. ▪ (*baseball*) The batter was *crowding* the plate. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ He said he broke up with his last girlfriend because she was beginning to *crowd* him. [=she was not allowing him enough privacy and independence]
crowd around/round [*phrasal verb*] ***crowd around/round*** *or* ***crowd around/round (something)*** : to form a tight group around (something or someone) ▪ A small group of people *crowded around* the car. ▪ When one of the protesters began to speak, the people *crowded around* (him) to hear what he had to say.
crowded together ✧ If a group of people or things are *crowded together*, they are next to and usually touching each other in a space that is too small. ▪ We need to organize the closet so that the shoes aren't *crowded together*.
crowd in [*phrasal verb*] **1** : to move as a group into a small space ▪ When we got to the elevator, everybody tried to *crowd in*. **2** *of thoughts, memories, etc.* : to come into your mind : to occupy your thinking — often + *on* ▪ When I smell a pie baking, memories of childhood holidays *crowd in on* me. [=memories fill my mind]
crowd out [*phrasal verb*] ***crowd out (something or someone)*** *or* ***crowd (something or someone) out*** : to push, move, or force (something or someone) out of a place or situation by filling its space ▪ The quick-growing grass is *crowding out* native plants. ▪ She worries that junk food is *crowding* fruits and vegetables *out* of her children's diet.

[2]crowd *noun, pl* **crowds**
1 [*count*] : a large group of people who are together in one place ▪ The President will address the *crowd* later. ▪ The *crowd* is restless. = (*Brit*) The *crowd* are restless. ▪ a *crowd* of kids/reporters/shoppers ▪ The formerly unknown singer now regularly performs to *crowds* of 10,000 (people). ▪ *Crowds* lined the street to watch the parade. ▪ His speeches always ***draw a big/large crowd***. [=a lot of people come to hear him speak] ▪ You can ***avoid the crowds*** by visiting a popular resort area in the off-season. ▪ police trained in ***crowd control***
2 ***the crowd*** : ordinary people : people who are not special or unusual ▪ kids trying to distinguish themselves from *the crowd* ▪ She prefers to be ***one of the crowd***. [=she prefers to not to be noticed or treated in any special way] ✧ Someone who is ***just another face in the crowd*** is not famous or well-known. ▪ Until her book became a best seller, she was *just another face in the crowd*. ✧ Someone or something that ***stands out from the crowd*** is unusual in a good way. ▪ As a teacher, he always *stood out from the crowd*. ▪ The high quality of these tools makes them *stand out from the crowd*. ✧ Someone who ***follows the crowd*** or ***goes with the crowd*** does whatever most other people are doing. ▪ He was never one to *follow the crowd*, so we weren't surprised when he dropped out of college to start his own business.
3 [*singular*] : a group of people who spend time together or have something in common ▪ Her parents are concerned that she's been hanging out with ***a bad crowd***. [=with people who do illegal or immoral things] — usually used with *the* ▪ Her parents are concerned that she's been hanging out with *the* wrong *crowd*. ▪ The new dance club caters to *the* under-18 *crowd*. [=to people who are less than 18 years old]
join the crowd **1** : to become part of a larger group : to do what most other people are doing ▪ You can find a private hideaway or *join the crowd* at the beach. **2** *informal* — used to say that the problems or feelings someone is having are problems or feelings that you have had yourself ▪ If you don't understand the rules, *join the crowd* [=(more commonly) *join the club*]: no one else does either!
two's company, three's a crowd see COMPANY

crowded *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : filled with too many people or things ▪ a *crowded* bar/lobby/waiting room ▪ The library was so *crowded* today! — often + *with* ▪ The room was *crowded* [=*crammed, packed*] *with* people.

crowd–pleas•er /ˈkraʊdˌpliːzɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a person, performance, or food that most people like ▪ The play is a guaranteed *crowd-pleaser*. [=it is certain that many people will like the play]

– crowd–pleas·ing /'kraʊdˌpli:zɪŋ/ *adj* ▪ a *crowd-pleasing* show

[1]crown /'kraʊn/ *noun, pl* **crowns**

1 [*count*] **a :** a decorative object that is shaped like a circle and worn on the head of a king or queen for special ceremonies ✧ Crowns are usually made of gold or silver and decorated with jewels. **b :** a similar object worn by someone who is not an actual king or queen ▪ The winner of the beauty pageant walked down the runway wearing her sparkling *crown*. **c :** a ring of leaves or flowers worn on the head of someone who has won a game, contest, or award

2 ***the crown*** *or* ***the Crown*** **:** the government of a country that is officially ruled by a king or queen ▪ the blessing of *the* Spanish *crown* ▪ allegiance to *the crown* ▪ She was appointed by *the Crown*.

3 ***the crown*** **:** the position of power that a king or queen has ▪ When the king died childless, his brother assumed *the crown*. [=his brother became king]

4 [*count*] **:** something (such as a badge or decoration) in the shape of a king's or queen's crown ▪ a jacket with a *crown* insignia on the pocket

5 [*count*] **:** the title or position held by the person who has won a particular competition **:** CHAMPIONSHIP — usually singular ▪ If he loses this match, he'll lose the heavyweight boxing *crown*. [=he will no longer be the champion]

6 [*count*] **:** the part of a tooth that can be seen ▪ an artificial *crown* made of porcelain

7 [*count*] **:** the top of the head — usually singular ▪ She has a big bump on the *crown* [=*top*] of her head.

8 [*count*] **:** the part of a hat that covers the top of the head — usually singular ▪ The hat has a rounded *crown* and a wide brim. — see picture at HAT

9 [*count*] **:** the highest part of something (such as a tree or mountain) ▪ From the tower, we could see the *crowns* of the trees below.

10 [*count*] **a :** a unit of money used in several European countries ▪ Norwegian *crowns* **b :** an old British coin worth five shillings

– crown *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ a *crown* appointee [=someone appointed by the government of a king or queen]

[2]crown *verb* **crowns**; **crowned**; **crown·ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to put a crown on (a new king, queen, etc.) **:** to give (someone) the power and title of a king or queen — usually used as *(be) crowned* ▪ She *was crowned* queen at the age of 18.

2 : to officially or formally give (someone) the title or position of a champion, winner, etc. ▪ The U.S. Open will *crown* a new champion Sunday. [=someone will be proclaimed champion at the U.S. Open championship] ▪ The magazine *crowned* her the new queen of rock-and-roll music.

3 : to end (something) in a successful and impressive way ▪ She *crowned* her long and distinguished career by designing the city's beautiful new bridge.

4 *literary* **:** to be on top of (something) **:** to form the top of (something) ▪ Snow *crowns* the mountain year-round. — usually used as *(be) crowned* ▪ The mountain *is crowned* with snow all year round. ▪ a hill *crowned* with yellow daffodils ▪ Her head *is crowned* by/with thick red hair.

5 : to put an artificial crown on (a tooth) ▪ I broke a tooth and I'll have to have it *crowned*.

6 *informal* **:** to hit (someone) on the head ▪ He got *crowned* with a beer bottle.

to crown it all *Brit* — used to indicate the last and usually worst thing in a series of bad things that have happened ▪ It rained, it snowed, and, *to crown it all* [=*to top it off*], our flight was canceled.

crown colony *noun, pl* **~ -nies** [*count*] **:** a colony (such as Gibraltar or the Falkland Islands) that is under the control of the British government

crowning *adj, always used before a noun* **:** greatest or most complete ▪ The bridge is the architect's *crowning* achievement. ▪ His refusal to see me was the *crowning* [=*worst, ultimate*] insult. ▪ The town's ***crowning glory*** is its old cathedral. [=the cathedral is the town's best feature] ▪ Her hair is her *crowning glory*.

crown jewel *noun, pl* **~ -els**

1 ***the crown jewels*** **:** the crown, scepter, and other jeweled objects that a king or queen uses on formal occasions

2 [*count*] **:** the most valuable or attractive thing in a collection or group ▪ The painting is the *crown jewel* of the museum's collection. ▪ one of the company's *crown jewels*

crown molding *noun, pl* **~ -ings** [*count, noncount*] *US* **:** a long, narrow decorative piece of wood that is used in some rooms to cover the place where the walls and ceiling come together

crown prince *noun, pl* **~ princes** [*count*]

1 : a prince who is expected to become king when the current king or queen dies ▪ *Crown Prince* George ▪ the *Crown Prince* of Spain

2 : a man or boy who people expect to become a leader in some field ▪ He's been heralded as the *crown prince* of jazz.

crown princess *noun, pl* **~ -cesses** [*count*]

1 : the wife of a crown prince

2 : a princess who is expected to become queen when the current king or queen dies ▪ *Crown Princess* Lydia

3 : a woman or girl who people expect to become a leader in some field ▪ She is ice-skating's new *crown princess*.

crow's–feet /'kroʊzˌfi:t/ *noun* [*plural*] **:** wrinkles around the outer corners of a person's eyes ▪ a new cream that is supposed to get rid of *crow's-feet*

crow's nest *noun, pl* **~ nests** [*count*] **:** a platform with short walls that is high on a ship's mast and from which you can see things (such as land and other ships) that are far away

CRT *abbr* cathode-ray tube

cru·cial /'kru:ʃəl/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] **:** extremely important ▪ Vitamins are *crucial* for maintaining good health. ▪ Eggs are a *crucial* [=*essential*] ingredient in this recipe. ▪ a *crucial* distinction/difference ▪ It's *crucial* that we arrive before 8 o'clock. ▪ Teachers are *crucial* to the success of the school. ▪ She played a *crucial* role in the meeting. ▪ Tonight's game is the *crucial* [=*decisive*] game of the series. [=whoever wins this game will win the series] ▪ a *crucial* decision

– cru·cial·ly *adv* ▪ *crucially* important

cru·ci·ble /'kru:səbəl/ *noun, pl* **-ci·bles** [*count*]

1 : a pot in which metals or other substances are heated to a very high temperature or melted

2 *formal + literary* **:** a difficult test or challenge ▪ He's ready to face the *crucible* of the Olympics.

3 *formal + literary* **:** a place or situation that forces people to change or make difficult decisions ▪ His character was formed in the *crucible* of war.

cru·ci·fix /'kru:səˌfɪks/ *noun, pl* **-fix·es** [*count*] **:** a model of a cross with a figure of Jesus Christ crucified on it ▪ He wears a *crucifix* on a chain around his neck.

cru·ci·fix·ion /ˌkru:sə'fɪkʃən/ *noun, pl* **-ions**

1 [*noncount*] **:** an act of killing someone by nailing or tying his or her hands and feet to a cross **:** an act of crucifying someone ▪ the *crucifixion* of the rebel Spartacus

2 ***the Crucifixion*** **:** the killing of Jesus Christ on a cross

cru·ci·form /'kru:səˌfoəm/ *adj* **:** in the shape of a cross ▪ a *cruciform* church

cru·ci·fy /'kru:səˌfaɪ/ *verb* **-fies**; **-fied**; **-fy·ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to kill (someone) by nailing or tying his or her hands and feet to a cross ▪ Jesus Christ was *crucified*.

2 *informal* **:** to criticize (someone or something) very harshly ▪ They *crucified* her in the newspapers for having an affair.

crud /'krʌd/ *noun* [*noncount*] *informal*

1 : a dirty or greasy substance ▪ I spent an hour scrubbing the *crud* off the old stove.

2 *chiefly US* **:** something unpleasant or worthless ▪ He complains that there's too much *crud* on TV these days.

crud·dy /'krʌdi/ *adj* **crud·di·er**; **-est** *informal*

1 : dirty or greasy ▪ a *cruddy* old stove

2 *US* **a :** not of good quality ▪ They did a *cruddy* [=*lousy*] job with the repairs. **b :** not well or happy ▪ I ***felt cruddy*** [=*lousy, sick*] the day after the party. ▪ I ***feel cruddy*** [=*sorry, bad*] about what I said.

[1]crude /'kru:d/ *adj* **crud·er**; **crud·est** [*also more ~; most ~*]

1 : very simple and basic **:** made or done in a way that does not show a lot of skill ▪ *crude* tools ▪ a *crude* instrument/drawing ▪ They built a *crude* shelter out of branches.

2 : rude in a way that makes people uncomfortable; *especially* **:** talking about sexual matters in a rude way ▪ They tell a lot of *crude* [=*vulgar*] jokes.

3 : very simple and basic in a way that is true but not complete ▪ a *crude* summary of the country's history ▪ a *crude* theory ▪ a *crude* [=*rough*] estimate ▪ She first described the procedure in *crude* terms, and then went into more detail.

– crude·ly *adv* ▪ a *crudely* drawn picture ▪ To put it *crudely* [=*bluntly*], I just don't like you. **– crude·ness** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ He doesn't appreciate the *crudeness* of their jokes.

[2]crude *noun* [*noncount*] **:** oil as it exists in the ground **:** petro-

leum that is not yet ready to be used as fuel — called also *crude oil*

cru•di•tés /ˌkru:dɪˈteɪ/ *noun* [*plural*] : pieces of raw vegetables (such as carrots and celery) that are served before a meal usually with a sauce for dipping

cru•di•ty /ˈkru:dəti/ *noun, pl* **-ties**

1 [*noncount*] : the quality or state of being crude ▪ the *crudity* of the drawing

2 [*count*] : something that is crude ▪ The movie's *crudities* were supposed to be funny, but they didn't make me laugh.

cru•el /ˈkru:l/ *adj, US* **cru•el•er** *or Brit* **cru•el•ler**; *US* **cru•el•est** *or Brit* **cru•el•lest** [*also more* ~; *most* ~]

1 — used to describe people who hurt others and do not feel sorry about it ▪ a *cruel* dictator/tyrant ▪ Children can be *cruel*, as any child who has been made fun of by others knows. ▪ He says he can't trust people who are *cruel* to animals. ▪ a *cruel* smile [=the smile of a cruel person]

2 : causing or helping to cause suffering : terrible and unfair ▪ a *cruel* joke ▪ It was a very *cruel* [=*hurtful*] thing to say. ▪ I thought it was rather *cruel* [=*unkind*] of them to give her all the dirty work. ▪ a *cruel* twist of fate ▪ Hunger is a *cruel* fact of nature. ▪ Life has dealt them some ***cruel blows*** in recent years. [=some very bad things have happened to them in recent years] ▪ The law forbids ***cruel and unusual punishment*** [=punishment that is very harsh and inappropriate for the crime]

– **cru•el•ly** *adv* ▪ treated *cruelly* ▪ He was *cruelly* beaten.

cru•el•ty /ˈkru:lti/ *noun, pl* **-ties**

1 [*noncount*] : a desire to cause others to suffer : the quality or state of being cruel ▪ a dictator/tyrant known for his *cruelty* ▪ The *cruelty* of children can be surprising.

2 a [*noncount*] : actions that cause suffering ▪ They protested against *cruelty* to animals. ▪ physical and emotional *cruelty*

b [*count*] : an act or occurrence that causes suffering — usually plural ▪ The prisoners endured awful *cruelties*. ▪ the *cruelties* of life/nature/war

cru•et /ˈkru:wət/ *noun, pl* **-ets** [*count*]

1 *US* : a small glass bottle that is used at the table during meals to hold vinegar, oil, or sauce

2 *Brit* : a container or set of containers used at the table during meals to hold salt, pepper, oil, etc.

[1]cruise /ˈkru:z/ *verb* **cruis•es**; **cruised**; **cruis•ing**

1 : to travel on a boat or ship to a number of places as a vacation [*no obj*] We *cruised* for a week down the Yangtze River. [+ *obj*] He dreams of *cruising* the Mediterranean.

2 [*no obj*] *of a car, airplane, etc.* : to move along at a steady speed ▪ The bus was *cruising* at 55 miles per hour. ▪ We were *cruising* along/down the highway. ▪ The plane was *cruising* at 30,000 feet.

3 : to drive or be driven slowly [+ *obj*] On Friday nights, teenagers *cruise* the main street in town to show off their cars. [*no obj*] A car *cruised* past us.

4 [*no obj*] : to do something easily : to easily succeed at something ▪ She *cruised* [=*waltzed, breezed*] through the exam. ▪ The team *cruised* to victory in the last game.

5 [+ *obj*] : to move around in (a place) without a specific purpose but usually with the hope of finding something interesting ▪ I *cruised* the mall for a couple hours on Saturday. — often used figuratively ▪ She spent hours *cruising* [=(more commonly) *surfing*] the Internet. ▪ He's always *cruising* the radio dial for new music.

6 *slang* : to go (somewhere) in search of a sexual partner [+ *obj*] They're out *cruising* bars. [*no obj*] a group of teenage guys out *cruising* for girls

[2]cruise *noun, pl* **cruises** [*count*] : a journey on a boat or ship to a number of places as a vacation ▪ We went on a weeklong *cruise* down the Yangtze River. ▪ They went on a *cruise* for their honeymoon. ▪ a Mediterranean *cruise* — sometimes used before another noun ▪ Which *cruise* line should I book my trip with? — see also CRUISE SHIP

cruise control *noun* [*noncount*]

1 : a device in a vehicle that a driver turns on to make the vehicle continue at whatever speed the driver has chosen

2 : a relaxed pace that does not require a lot of effort ▪ She admits that she's been doing the job so long that she's ***on cruise control*** [=she does not put a lot of effort into the job]

cruise missile *noun, pl* ~ **-siles** [*count*] : a large military weapon that flies close to the ground and is directed to a specific place to explode

cruis•er /ˈkru:zɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

1 *US* : POLICE CAR

2 : a large and fast military ship

3 : a boat that has room to live on and that is used for pleasure — called also *cabin cruiser*

cruise ship *noun, pl* ~ **ships** [*count*] : a large ship that takes many people on a cruise at one time : a large ship that stops at different ports and carries passengers who are traveling for pleasure — called also *cruise liner*; see picture at SHIP

cruising altitude *noun, pl* ~ **-tudes** : the height in the sky at which an airplane stays for most of a flight [*noncount*] The pilot announced that we'd reached *cruising altitude*. [*count*] a *cruising altitude* of 40,000 feet

cruising speed *noun, pl* ~ **speeds** : the speed at which an airplane, a boat, etc., usually moves when it is traveling at a fast speed for a long distance [*count*] The boat has a *cruising speed* of 25 knots. [*noncount*] The boat handled well at *cruising speed*.

crul•ler /ˈkrʌlɚ/ *noun, pl* **-lers** [*count*] *US* : a sweet food made from a piece of dough that has been twisted and fried

crumb /ˈkrʌm/ *noun, pl* **crumbs** [*count*]

1 : a very small piece of food ▪ He swept the *crumbs* from under the table. ✧ Crumbs are usually pieces of baked foods like bread or cake. They are sometimes used in cooking. ▪ The pie's crust is made with cookie *crumbs*. ▪ Coat the fish in bread *crumbs* before frying it.

2 *informal* : a very small amount of something — usually + *of* ▪ hoping for any *crumb of* affection ▪ They couldn't find a *crumb of* evidence against her.

[1]crum•ble /ˈkrʌmbəl/ *verb* **crum•bles**; **crum•bled**; **crum•bling**

1 [+ *obj*] : to break (something) into small pieces ▪ *Crumble* the cookies into small bits. ▪ The recipe calls for the herbs to be *crumbled*.

2 [*no obj*] : to separate into many small pieces : to fall apart ▪ The arch had *crumbled* [=*disintegrated*] under the weight of all those stones. ▪ bones so old they had *crumbled* to dust ▪ *crumbling* buildings/monuments/walls

3 [*no obj*] : to break down completely : to stop functioning ▪ Peace talks between the two parties have *crumbled*. [=*collapsed*] ▪ She was extremely depressed after her marriage *crumbled*. ▪ their *crumbling* marriage

that's the way the cookie crumbles see COOKIE

[2]crumble *noun, pl* **crumbles**

1 ***crumbles*** [*plural*] *US* : small pieces of something that has been crumbled ▪ *crumbles* of blue cheese

2 [*count, noncount*] *chiefly Brit* : [2]CRISP 2 ▪ an apple *crumble*

crum•bly /ˈkrʌmbəli/ *adj* **crum•bli•er**; **-est** : easily broken into small pieces ▪ *crumbly* soil ▪ a *crumbly* cheese

crumbs /ˈkrʌmz/ *interj, Brit, informal* — used to express surprise ▪ *Crumbs*! I can't believe he did it!

crum•my /ˈkrʌmi/ *adj* **crum•mi•er**; **-est** *informal*

1 : not pleasant ▪ We've had *crummy* [=*lousy*] weather all week.

2 : not of good quality ▪ The plumbers did a *crummy* [=*lousy*] job putting in the new sink. ▪ a *crummy* story

3 *chiefly US* : not well or happy ▪ I ***felt crummy*** [=*sick, lousy*] all day yesterday. ▪ I *feel crummy* [=*bad, sorry*] about the way I treated her.

crum•pet /ˈkrʌmpət/ *noun, pl* **-pets** *Brit*

1 [*count*] : a small round bread that has a smooth bottom and holes in the top and that is eaten hot with butter

2 *informal + sometimes offensive* : a sexually attractive person [*noncount*] He's looking for ***a bit of crumpet*** [=he's looking for an attractive woman to have sex with] [*count*] Because he is brainy as well as handsome, the actor is often referred to as "the thinking woman's *crumpet*."

crum•ple /ˈkrʌmpəl/ *verb* **crum•ples**; **crum•pled**; **crum•pling**

1 a [+ *obj*] : to press or squeeze (something) so that it is no longer flat or smooth ▪ She *crumpled* the piece of paper into a ball and tossed it into the garbage can. ▪ The car's fender was *crumpled* in the accident. ▪ a *crumpled* napkin/suit/bill — often + *up* ▪ He *crumpled up* the note and threw it away.

b [*no obj*] : to become wrinkled or bent : to stop being smooth or flat ▪ The fabric is stiff and does not *crumple* [=*wrinkle, rumple*] easily. ▪ Her ***face crumpled*** [=she looked like she was going to cry] when we told her that she couldn't come with us.

2 [*no obj*] : to suddenly bend and fall ▪ At the sight of blood, he *crumpled* to the floor.

crumple zone *noun, pl* ~ **zones** [*count*] *technical* : the front part of a vehicle that is designed to bend easily in an accident so that the people inside are protected

C

[1]crunch /ˈkrʌnʧ/ *verb* **crunch·es; crunched; crunch·ing**

1 [*no obj*] **a** : to make the loud sound of something being crushed ▪ The snow *crunched* underfoot. **b** : to move along a surface that makes the loud sound of something being crushed ▪ We could hear the truck's tires *crunching* along the gravel road.

2 [+ *obj*] : to process (numbers, information, etc.) : to examine and analyze (numbers, information, etc.) ▪ When she ***crunched the numbers***, she found that the business's profits were actually much lower than the company had said. — see also NUMBER CRUNCHER

crunch on [*phrasal verb*] ***crunch on (something)*** : to chew (a piece of food) in a way that makes a loud sound ▪ She *crunched on* a carrot while watching TV. ▪ *crunching on* potato chips

[2]crunch *noun, pl* **crunches**

1 a [*count*] : the sound made when something hard is being chewed or crushed : a crunching sound ▪ the *crunch* of someone eating a carrot ▪ We could hear the *crunch* of the truck's tires on the gravel road. **b** [*noncount*] : the quality of a food that produces a loud sound when it is chewed : a crunchy quality ▪ The nuts give the salad *crunch*. [=the nuts make the salad somewhat crunchy]

2 ***the crunch*** : a very difficult point or situation ▪ *The crunch* came when the computer stopped working. — see also CRUNCH TIME

3 [*count*] *US* : a situation in which there is not enough of something — usually singular ▪ The city's budget *crunch* means that streets will not be repaired this spring. [=because the city does not have enough money, streets will not be repaired] ▪ The project is facing a time *crunch*. ▪ an energy *crunch* [=(more commonly) *crisis*]

4 [*count*] : a stomach exercise in which you lie on your back, raise the top part of your body until your shoulders are off the floor, and then lower it — usually plural ▪ I try to do 50 *crunches* a day. — compare SIT-UP

crunch time *noun* [*noncount*] *informal* : the most important time in a game, event, etc. : a critical moment ▪ The team had trained well, but at *crunch time* they just couldn't perform.

crunchy /ˈkrʌnʧi/ *adj* **crunch·i·er; -est** : having a hard texture and making a loud sound when chewed or crushed : not soft or mushy ▪ *crunchy* chips/cereal/vegetables ▪ *crunchy* snow ▪ These cookies are very *crunchy*.

[1]cru·sade /kruˈseɪd/ *noun, pl* **-sades** [*count*]

1 ***Crusade*** : any one of the wars that European Christian countries fought against Muslims in Palestine in the 11th, 12th, and 13th centuries — usually plural

2 : a major effort to change something — usually + *for* or *against* ▪ She has devoted herself to the *crusade for* equal rights for all people. ▪ a *crusade* [=*campaign*] *against* crime/pollution ▪ a politician conducting/waging a *crusade against* organized labor

[2]crusade *verb* **-sad·ed; -sad·ing** [*no obj*] : to take part in a major effort to change something — usually + *for* or *against* ▪ She has *crusaded for* equal rights for all people. ▪ They are *crusading* [=*campaigning*] *against* crime/pollution.

– **cru·sad·er** *or* **Crusader** *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] ▪ human rights *crusaders* ▪ the *Crusaders* of the Middle Ages

[1]crush /ˈkrʌʃ/ *verb* **crush·es; crushed; crush·ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to press or squeeze (something) so hard that it breaks or loses its shape ▪ Unfortunately some of the flowers got *crushed* when we were moving them. ▪ *crushing* grapes ▪ The bicycle was *crushed* under the truck's tires. ▪ The machine *crushes* the cans so that they can be stored until they are recycled. ▪ Her arm was *crushed* in the accident. ▪ Several people were ***crushed to death*** [=killed by being crushed] as the crowd rushed for the exit doors.

2 : to break (something) into a powder or very small pieces by pressing, pounding, or grinding it ▪ *Crush* the nuts and sprinkle them on top of the cake. ▪ The rocks were *crushed* into dust. ▪ *crushed* herbs/ice/garlic

3 : to defeat (a person or group that opposes you) by using a lot of force ▪ The king sent out his special forces to *crush* [=*quash*] the rebellion.

4 : to make (someone) feel very unhappy, upset, etc. ▪ The novelist was *crushed* by the editor's comments. ▪ A string of bad luck had *crushed* his spirit. ▪ He was *crushed* by regret. ▪ She owed many people money, and felt *crushed* [=*overwhelmed*] by the debt.

– **crush·er** *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] ▪ a garlic *crusher* ▪ They used an electric *crusher* to crush the grapes.

[2]crush *noun, pl* **crushes**

1 [*count*] **a** : a strong feeling of romantic love for someone that is usually not expressed and does not last a long time ✧ The person who has a crush is usually young or is behaving or feeling like a young person. ▪ a childhood *crush* ▪ a ***schoolgirl crush*** [=romantic feelings felt by a schoolgirl or by someone who is being compared to a schoolgirl] — often + *on* ▪ All through high school I had a *crush on* the art teacher. ▪ I think he's got a *crush on* her. **b** : the person on whom you have a crush ▪ Yesterday I saw my old high school *crush* for the first time in five years.

2 [*count*] : a crowd of people who are pressed close together ▪ The *crush* in the train station is at its worst during the afternoon rush hour. ▪ Outside the hotel stood a *crush* of reporters waiting for her arrival.

3 [*noncount*] *chiefly Brit* : a drink made from fruit juice ▪ orange *crush*

crushing *adj* : very bad, harmful, or severe ▪ The team suffered a *crushing* loss. ▪ They are struggling to escape the *crushing* poverty they've known all their lives. ▪ The news came as a *crushing* blow. ▪ a *crushing* insult

crust /ˈkrʌst/ *noun, pl* **crusts**

1 : the hard outer surface of bread [*count*] Her children prefer to eat their sandwiches with the *crusts* [=the outer edges of the bread slices] cut off. ▪ a crunchy/chewy *crust* [*noncount*] Her children prefer to eat their sandwiches with the *crust* cut off.

2 : the outside part of a pie : PIECRUST [*count*] Bake the pie until the *crust* [=*top*] is golden brown. [*noncount*] a pie with flaky *crust*

3 [*count, noncount*] : the bread that is used to make a pizza ▪ He likes pizza with thin/thick *crust*. ▪ She ate three slices of pizza, but left the *crusts* [=the thick, outer pieces of the crust] on her plate.

4 [*count, noncount*] : a hard layer on the surface of something ▪ Our feet broke through the thin *crust* of ice and into the snow below. ▪ the Earth's *crust*

earn a/your crust *Brit, informal* : to earn the money that you need to live : to earn a living ▪ I'm really a poet, but I've got to *earn my crust* as an accountant.

– see also UPPER CRUST

crus·ta·cean /krəˈsteɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-ceans** [*count*] *technical* : a type of animal (such as a crab or lobster) that has several pairs of legs and a body made up of sections that are covered in a hard outer shell ✧ Crustaceans usually live in the water.

– **crustacean** *adj*

crust·ed /ˈkrʌstəd/ *adj* : having a hard surface layer ▪ *crusted* snow ▪ mud-*crusted* shoes [=mud-encrusted shoes] — often + *with* ▪ fish *crusted* with blackened spices

crusty /ˈkrʌsti/ *adj* **crust·i·er; -est**

1 : harsh and unfriendly ▪ a *crusty* old man ✧ A crusty person often seems unfriendly at first but is really kinder and more caring than he or she seems. *Crusty* is usually used to describe old people.

2 *of food* : having a thick or crisp crust ▪ a basket of warm, *crusty* bread

3 : having a crust : having a hard surface layer ▪ We could see deer tracks in the *crusty* snow bank.

– **crust·i·ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

crutch /ˈkrʌʧ/ *noun, pl* **crutch·es** [*count*]

1 : a long stick with a padded piece at the top that fits under a person's arm — usually plural ✧ People who have difficulty walking often use crutches to help them walk. ▪ He's able to walk short distances with *crutches* but prefers his wheelchair. ▪ I was ***on crutches*** [=I was using crutches to walk] for six weeks after I broke my leg. — see picture at HOSPITAL

2 *usually disapproving* : something that a person uses too much for help or support ▪ She eventually realized that alcohol had become a *crutch*. [=that she was drinking too much alcohol as a way of dealing with her problems]

3 *Brit* : CROTCH

crux /ˈkrʌks/ *noun*

the crux : the most important part of something (such as a problem, issue, puzzle, etc.) — usually + *of* ▪ *The crux of* the matter is that people are afraid of change. ▪ It's taken a while to get to *the crux of* the problem, but I think I finally understand it.

[1]cry /ˈkraɪ/ *verb* **cries; cried; cry·ing**

1 : to produce tears from your eyes often while making loud sounds because of pain, sorrow, or other strong emotions [*no obj*] The baby is *crying*. Is she okay? ▪ a *crying* baby ▪

Some people *cry* more easily than others. ▪ He *cried* silently while the song played. ▪ She *cried* all the way home from school that day. ▪ He *cried* (for) the whole day. ▪ She couldn't imagine why anyone would *cry* over a stupid movie. ▪ She was *crying* with relief/frustration/anger. ▪ The first day of camp, a number of children *cried* for their parents. [=cried because they wanted their parents] [+ *obj*] They *cried* tears of joy. ✧ If you ***cry yourself to sleep***, you cry until you have fallen asleep. ✧ If you ***cry your eyes out*** or ***cry your heart out***, you cry a lot. ▪ I *cried my eyes out* when I found out they had left without saying goodbye.

2 : to shout or say something loudly [+ *obj*] "We've won!" they *cried*. ▪ "Help," he *cried*, "Get a doctor! Quick!" ▪ I heard someone *cry* "Wait!" but the train pulled away anyway. [*no obj*] She *cried* [=*called out*] to the others to come and see what she'd found. — often + *for* ▪ I heard someone *crying for* help. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ Various groups have been *crying for* [=*calling for*] his resignation.

3 [*no obj*] *of a bird or animal* : to make the loud sound that is usual for a particular type of bird or animal ▪ She'd never heard the sound of sea gulls *crying* by the shore.

a shoulder to cry on see [1]SHOULDER

cry for [*phrasal verb*] ***cry for (something)*** : to need or require (something) very much ▪ This problem is *crying for* a solution. ▪ The old house is *crying for* a new coat of paint.

cry foul *chiefly US* : to complain that someone has done something that is not fair ▪ When Mika's parents gave her a new bicycle, her sisters *cried foul*.

cry off [*phrasal verb*] *Brit* : to say that you will not do something you have promised to do ▪ He said he would help me move into my new apartment but then he *cried off* [=*begged off*] at the last minute.

cry out [*phrasal verb*] **1** : to make a loud sound because of pain, fear, surprise, etc. ▪ She *cried out* in pain. **2** ***cry out or cry out (something)*** : to speak in a loud voice : to say (something) loudly or from a distance ▪ We could hear them on the shore *crying out* [=*calling out*] to us, so we waved. ▪ She *cried out* for help. ▪ "I'm stuck," she *cried out*. ▪ She *cried out* that she was stuck. **3** ***cry out against (something)*** : to say publicly that (something) is wrong or unfair : to protest (something) ▪ People around the world are *crying out against* the government's civil rights abuses. **4** — used to say that something clearly needs or should have a particular thing, person, use, etc.; often + *to be* ▪ A chair like this *cries out to be used* [=should definitely be used], not kept in some museum. ▪ The meal *cried out to be eaten* with a nice white wine. [=it was obvious that the meal should be served with a white wine] — often + *for* ▪ The meal *cried out for* a nice white wine. ▪ The job *cries out for* someone who's not afraid to take chances.

cry over spilled milk (*US*) *or chiefly Brit* ***cry over spilt milk*** *informal* : to be upset about something that has happened and that cannot be changed ▪ You made a mistake, but there's no use *crying over spilled milk*.

cry wolf : to make people think there is danger when there is really none ▪ News organizations have been warned not to *cry wolf*. If people hear too many warnings that turn out to be nothing, they won't listen to the important warnings when they come.

for crying out loud *informal* — used to show anger, annoyance, etc. ▪ Why won't they let me in? It's my house, *for crying out loud*!

– **crying** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ We heard (the sound of) *crying* in the next room. ▪ a *crying* fit/jag/spell

[2]cry *noun, pl* **cries**

1 [*count*] : a loud sound that someone makes to express pain, hunger, sadness, etc. ▪ *cries* of pain ▪ The baby's *cry* woke me out of a deep sleep.

2 [*count*] : something that is said loudly : a shout or call ▪ There was a *cry* of "Fire" and we all rushed for the exits. ▪ The children were playing a game and their happy *cries* echoed through the house. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ The verdict has been met with *cries* of outrage. [=people are very angry and upset about the verdict] ▪ There have been loud *cries* [=*calls*] for his resignation from various groups. — see also HUE AND CRY

3 [*count*] : a loud sound made by an animal or bird ▪ the wild *cry* of a coyote ▪ The birds' loud *cries* [=*calls*] startled me.

4 [*singular*] : an act of crying or a period of time spent crying ▪ By the end of the movie, we'd all had a good *cry*. [=we had all cried for a while]

5 [*count*] : an act or way of behaving which shows that someone wants help, attention, etc. ▪ The doctor thinks the boy's bad behavior at school is ***a cry for help***.

6 [*count*] : a word or phrase that a group of people uses to express a common idea or goal or to unite them ▪ "Free speech" is the *cry* of the protesters. — see also BATTLE CRY, RALLYING CRY, WAR CRY

a far cry from : very different from (something or someone) ▪ The movie is *a far cry from* the book. ▪ He's *a far cry from* the idealistic young writer he once was.

in full cry **1** : full of anger, excitement, etc., especially in reaction to something ▪ The school's budget is being cut, and teachers and parents are *in full cry*. [=are very angry and upset] **2** *of hunting dogs* : in the act of chasing an animal : in full pursuit

cry•ba•by /ˈkraɪˌbeɪbi/ *noun, pl* **-bies** [*count*] *informal* : a person who cries easily or complains often ▪ "Don't be such a *crybaby*," she told her little sister.

cry•ing /ˈkrajɪŋ/ *adj*

a crying need : a very obvious need : a serious and important need ▪ There's *a crying need* for reform in this city.

a crying shame : a situation that makes you feel sad or disappointed ▪ It's *a crying shame* [=it's upsetting to me] that movies are often so violent these days. ▪ It'd be *a crying shame* to miss the beginning of the show.

cryo•gen•ics /ˌkrajəˈʤɛnɪks/ *noun* [*noncount*] *technical* : a science that deals with how very low temperatures are produced and how they affect other things

cry•on•ics /ˌkrajˈɑːnɪks/ *noun* [*noncount*] *medical* : a procedure in which a person's body is frozen just after he or she has died so that the body can be restored if a cure for the cause of death is found

crypt /ˈkrɪpt/ *noun, pl* **crypts** [*count*] : a room under a church in which people are buried after they have died

cryp•tic /ˈkrɪptɪk/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : difficult to understand : having or seeming to have a hidden meaning ▪ a *cryptic* message/title/remark ▪ His instructions were *cryptic*. He said only to wait until we felt certain the answer was clear.

– **cryp•ti•cal•ly** /ˈkrɪptɪkli/ *adv* ▪ She smiled *cryptically*.

cryp•to- /ˌkrɪptoʊ/ *combining form* : hidden or secret ▪ a *crypto*-anarchist [=a person who does not seem to support anarchy but secretly holds anarchist beliefs]

cryp•to•gram /ˈkrɪptəˌgræm/ *noun, pl* **-grams** [*count*] : a message that is written in code

cryp•tog•ra•phy /krɪpˈtɑːgrəfi/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the process of writing or reading secret messages or codes ▪ Companies often use *cryptography* to protect private information.

– **cryp•tog•ra•pher** /krɪpˈtɑːgrəfɚ/ *noun, pl* **-phers** [*count*] ▪ He was hired as a *cryptographer* to break the enemy's secret code.

crys•tal /ˈkrɪstl̩/ *noun, pl* **-tals**

1 [*count*] : a small piece of a substance that has many sides and is formed when the substance turns into a solid ▪ ice/salt *crystals* ▪ a *crystal* of quartz ▪ the *crystal* structure of minerals

2 : a clear hard mineral that is either colorless or very light in color and that is used in making jewelry [*noncount*] a necklace made of *crystal* [*count*] Some of the *crystals* used in the necklace are a pale pink color.

3 [*noncount*] **a** : a special type of glass that is very clear ▪ The wine glasses are made of the finest *crystal*. — often used before another noun ▪ a *crystal* chandelier/vase **b** : objects made of this glass ▪ She inherited her mother's *crystal*. ▪ their wedding *crystal*

4 [*count*] *US* : the clear glass or plastic cover on a watch or clock ▪ I broke the *crystal* on my watch.

crystal ball *noun, pl* ~ **balls** [*count*] : a clear glass ball in which some people say they can see the future by using magic

crystal clear *adj*

1 : perfectly clear : able to be seen through completely ▪ *crystal clear* water

2 : perfectly easy to understand ▪ "Was my request clear?" "Yes, *crystal clear*." ▪ Eventually it became *crystal clear* that something had to change.

crys•tal•line /ˈkrɪstələn, *Brit* ˈkrɪstəˌlaɪn/ *adj*

1 : clear and shining like crystal ▪ the island's *crystalline* waters — sometimes used figuratively ▪ a singer with a *crystalline* voice [=a beautifully clear voice]

2 *technical* : made of or similar to crystal or crystals ▪ a *crystalline* solid ▪ the rock's *crystalline* structure

crys•tal•lize *also Brit* **crys•tal•lise** /ˈkrɪstəˌlaɪz/ *verb* **-liz•es; -lized; -liz•ing**

1 *technical* : to change into a solid form that is made up of crystals [*no obj*] Eventually the paint will start to *crystallize*.

▪ Certain conditions can cause carbon to *crystallize* into diamonds. [+ *obj*] Certain conditions can *crystallize* carbon into diamonds.

2 : to cause (something, such as an idea, belief, etc.) to become clear and fully formed [+ *obj*] The final paragraph of the essay *crystallizes* her theory. ▪ He tried to *crystallize* his thoughts. [*no obj*] Her theory *crystallizes* in the final paragraph of the essay. ▪ The plan *crystallized* slowly.

– **crys·tal·li·za·tion** *also Brit* **crys·tal·li·sa·tion** /ˌkrɪstələˈzeɪʃən, *Brit* ˌkrɪstəˌlaɪˈzeɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the *crystallization* of the liquid ▪ the *crystallization* of her theory

crystallized *also Brit* **crystallised** *adj* : covered in sugar ▪ *crystallized* ginger/grapes

crystal meth *noun* [*noncount*] : an illegal drug in the form of crystals that causes you to feel more energetic and alert when you smoke it

C–sec·tion /ˈsiːˌsɛkʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count*] *medical* : CESAREAN SECTION

ct. *abbr* carat

Ct. *abbr* court

CT *abbr* Connecticut

CT scan /ˈsiːˈtiː-/ *noun, pl* ~ **scans** [*count*] *medical* : CAT SCAN

cub /ˈkʌb/ *noun, pl* **cubs** [*count*]

1 : a young animal that eats meat ▪ a bear/fox/lion *cub*

2 ***Cub*** *Brit* : CUB SCOUT

– see also CUB REPORTER

cub·by /ˈkʌbi/ *noun, pl* **-bies** [*count*] : CUBBYHOLE

cub·by·hole /ˈkʌbiˌhoʊl/ *noun, pl* **-holes** [*count*]

1 : a small hole or space for storing things ▪ The car has lots of *cubbyholes* for small items. ▪ He keeps the key in a *cubbyhole* in his desk.

2 : a place (such as a room) that is very small ▪ He worked in a *cubbyhole* under the stairs.

[1]cube /ˈkjuːb/ *noun, pl* **cubes** [*count*]

1 : an object that has six square sides ▪ an ice *cube* ▪ Cut the onion into half-inch *cubes*. — see picture at GEOMETRY

2 *mathematics* : the number that results from multiplying a number by itself twice ▪ The *cube* of 2 [=2^3] is 8. [=2 x 2 x 2 = 8] — compare [1]SQUARE 3

3 *US, informal + humorous* : CUBICLE 1 ▪ She decorated her *cube* with pictures of her children.

[2]cube *verb* **cubes**; **cubed**; **cub·ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to cut (food) into small cubes ▪ *Cube* the carrots and potatoes. ▪ three slices of bread, *cubed*

2 *mathematics* : to multiply (a number) by itself twice — usually used as *cubed* ▪ 2 *cubed* equals 8. [=2 x 2 x 2 = 8] — compare [3]SQUARE 3

cube root *noun, pl* ~ **roots** [*count*] *mathematics* : a number that produces a specified number when it is multiplied by itself twice ▪ The *cube root* of 8 is 2. — compare SQUARE ROOT

cu·bic /ˈkjuːbɪk/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 — used to describe a measurement that is produced by multiplying something's length by its width and its height ▪ one *cubic* centimeter [=a measure of volume that is one centimeter long, one centimeter wide, and one centimeter high] ▪ three *cubic* feet of space — compare [2]SQUARE 2

2 : in the shape of a cube ▪ *cubic* crystals/shapes ▪ a *cubic* structure

cu·bi·cle /ˈkjuːbɪkəl/ *noun, pl* **-bi·cles** [*count*]

1 *chiefly US* : a work space in a large office with a desk that is usually surrounded by low walls ▪ an office *cubicle*

2 *Brit* : a small space in a public room (such as a bathroom) that has walls for privacy ▪ a shower/toilet *cubicle* [=(*US*) *stall*]

Cub·ism /ˈkjuːˌbɪzəm/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a style of art that originated in the early 20th century in which objects are divided into and shown as a group of geometric shapes and from many different angles at the same time

– **Cub·ist** /ˈkjuːbɪst/ *adj* ▪ a *Cubist* painting ▪ the *Cubist* movement – **Cubist** *noun, pl* **-ists** [*count*]

cub reporter *noun, pl* ~ **-ers** [*count*] : a young newspaper reporter who does not have much experience

Cub Scout *noun, pl* ~ **Scouts** [*count*] : a member of an organization of Boy Scouts for boys ages 7 through 10 — compare BROWNIE

[1]cuck·old /ˈkʌkəld/ *noun, pl* **-olds** [*count*] *old-fashioned* : a man whose wife has sex with someone else : a man's whose wife commits adultery

[2]cuckold *verb* **-olds**; **-old·ed**; **-old·ing** [+ *obj*] *old-fashioned*

1 : to have sex with someone other than (your husband) ▪ There were rumors that his wife had *cuckolded* him.

2 : to have sex with the wife of (another man) ▪ He was *cuckolded* by his best friend.

[1]cuck·oo /ˈkuːku, *Brit* ˈkʊku/ *noun, pl* **-oos** [*count*] : a type of bird that lays its eggs in the nests of other birds and that has a call that sounds like its name

[2]cuckoo *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *informal + old-fashioned*

1 : silly or crazy ▪ They told me that he's a little *cuckoo*. [=*nutty*] ▪ a *cuckoo* idea

2 : very enthusiastic ▪ I'm not *cuckoo* [=(more commonly) *wild, crazy*] about the idea.

cuckoo clock *noun, pl* ~ **clocks** [*count*] : a clock that has a toy bird inside of it that comes out and makes a sound like a cuckoo to tell what time it is

cu·cum·ber /ˈkjuːˌkʌmbɚ/ *noun, pl* **-bers** [*count, noncount*] : a long vegetable with dark green skin and crisp flesh that is often used in salads or for making pickles — see color picture on page C4

(as) cool as a cucumber see [1]COOL

cud /ˈkʌd/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the food that an animal (such as a cow) brings back up from its stomach into its mouth to be chewed again ▪ a cow chewing its *cud*

cud·dle /ˈkʌdl̩/ *verb* **cud·dles**; **cud·dled**; **cud·dling**

1 [+ *obj*] : to hold (someone or something) in your arms in order to show affection ▪ He *cuddled* the puppy.

2 [*no obj*] : to lie or sit close together ▪ Let's *cuddle* by the fire. — often + *up* ▪ They *cuddled up* under the blanket. ▪ They *cuddled up* to each other. ▪ He *cuddled up* with a good book. [=he sat down in a comfortable position and began reading a good book]

– **cuddle** *noun, pl* **cuddles** [*count*] ▪ She gave the children a *cuddle*.

cud·dly /ˈkʌdl̩i/ *adj* **cud·dli·er**; **-est** *informal*

1 : having the soft or appealing quality of a thing or person that you would like to cuddle ▪ *cuddly* teddy bears ▪ He is so big and *cuddly*. ▪ a soft, *cuddly* fabric

2 : designed to be easy to like and not to offend people ▪ their *cuddly* brand of commercialism

[1]cud·gel /ˈkʌʤəl/ *noun, pl* **-gels** [*count*] : a short heavy club

pick/take up the cudgels for *somewhat old-fashioned* : to fight in defense or support of (someone or something) ▪ She *took up the cudgels for* women's rights.

[2]cudgel *verb* **-gels**; *US* **-geled** *or Brit* **-gelled**; *US* **-gel·ing** *or Brit* **-gel·ling** [+ *obj*] : to hit (someone or something) with a club — usually used figuratively ▪ a politician who is being *cudgeled* in the press for his failure to support tax cuts

cudgel your brain/brains see [1]BRAIN

[1]cue /ˈkjuː/ *noun, pl* **cues** [*count*]

1 : a word, phrase, or action in a play, movie, etc., that is a signal for a performer to say or do something ▪ That last line is your *cue* to exit the stage.

2 : a sign that tells a person to do something ▪ I'll take that yawn as my *cue* to leave. ▪ Their silence was a *cue* for him to speak.

3 : something that indicates the nature of what you are seeing, hearing, etc. ▪ The expressions on people's faces give us visual *cues* about their feelings. ▪ auditory *cues*

on cue ✧ When something happens ***(right) on cue*** or ***as if on cue***, it happens at the exact moment you would expect it to. ▪ She arrived *right on cue* at the mention of her name. ▪ *As if on cue*, the entire group burst into laughter.

take a/your cue from : to do what is done or suggested by (someone or something) ▪ *Take a cue from* the experts and get your taxes done early this year. ▪ We should *take our cue from* their example.

– compare [3]CUE

[2]cue *verb* **cues**; **cued**; **cu·ing** [+ *obj*] : to give (someone) a signal to do something during a performance ▪ *Cue* the band. ▪ *Cue* the lights/sound. [=give a signal to the person running the lights/sound]

[3]cue *noun, pl* **cues** [*count*] : a long, thin stick that is used in playing pool, billiards, and snooker ▪ a pool *cue* — compare [1]CUE

cue ball *noun, pl* ~ **balls** [*count*] : the white ball that a player hits with the cue in pool, billiards, and snooker

cue card *noun, pl* ~ **cards** [*count*] : a large card that can be seen by someone (such as an actor) who is performing or speaking on a stage or on television and that shows the words that the person is supposed to say

[1]cuff /ˈkʌf/ *noun, pl* **cuffs**
1 [*count*] : the part of a sleeve, glove, etc., that covers the wrist — see color picture on page C14
2 [*count*] *US* : a piece of cloth at the bottom of a pant leg that is folded up — called also (*Brit*) *turn-up*; see color picture on page C15
3 [*count*] : something that goes around a person's arm like the cuff of a sleeve ▪ She wore a *cuff* bracelet. ▪ The nurse put a blood-pressure *cuff* [=a cuff that measures blood pressure] on his arm. — see also ROTATOR CUFF
4 cuffs [*plural*] : HANDCUFFS ▪ The police led him away in *cuffs*.
off the cuff : without being prepared in advance : without planning or preparation ▪ He talked/spoke *off the cuff* about his work on the project. ▪ I had to give the speech *off the cuff*. — see also OFF-THE-CUFF
– **cuffed** *adj* ▪ a blouse with *cuffed* sleeves ▪ *cuffed* pants

[2]cuff *verb* **cuffs**; **cuffed**; **cuff·ing** [+ *obj*] : to put (someone) in handcuffs ▪ He was *cuffed* and led away. — compare [3]CUFF

[3]cuff *verb* **cuffs**; **cuffed**; **cuffing** [+ *obj*] : to hit (someone or something) with the palm of your hand ▪ She *cuffed* the boy on the head/ear. — compare [2]CUFF
– **cuff** *noun, pl* **cuffs** [*count*] ▪ She gave him a *cuff* on the head/ear.

cuff link *noun, pl* ~ **links** [*count*] : a piece of jewelry that is used to fasten the cuff of a sleeve on a man's shirt — see color picture on page C11

cui·sine /kwɪˈziːn/ *noun, pl* **-sines**
1 : a style of cooking [*noncount*] I like gourmet/vegetarian/ethnic *cuisine*. ▪ a cooking method used in French *cuisine* [*count*] regional *cuisines* ▪ a *cuisine* based on local ingredients — see also HAUTE CUISINE, NOUVELLE CUISINE
2 [*noncount*] : food that is cooked in a particular way ▪ This restaurant is famous for its spicy *cuisine*.

cul–de–sac /ˈkʌldɪˌsæk/ *noun, pl* **cul–de–sacs** /ˈkʌldɪˌsæks/ *also* **culs–de–sac** /ˈkʌlzdɪˌsæk/ [*count*] : a street that is designed to connect to another street only at one end ▪ Our house is located on a quiet *cul-de-sac*.

cul·i·nary /ˈkʌləˌneri, *Brit* ˈkʌlənri/ *adj, always used before a noun* : used in or relating to cooking ▪ *culinary* herbs ▪ the *culinary* arts ▪ They serve a variety of *culinary* delights.

cull /ˈkʌl/ *verb* **culls**; **culled**; **cull·ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to select or choose (someone or something) from a group ▪ Damaged fruits are *culled* (out) before the produce is shipped. — usually + *from* ▪ They've *culled* some of the best poems *from* her collected works. ▪ She *culled* the information *from* newspaper articles.
2 : to control the size of (a group of animals) by killing some animals ▪ He *culls* his herd annually. ▪ The town issued hunting licenses in order to *cull* the deer population.
– **cull** *noun, pl* **culls** [*count*] ▪ the annual *cull* of the herd

cul·mi·nate /ˈkʌlməˌneɪt/ *verb* **-nates**; **-nat·ed**; **-nat·ing**
1 [*no obj*] : to reach the end or the final result of something — usually + *in* or *with* ▪ She had a long acting career that *culminated in* two Oscar nominations. ▪ The investigation *culminated with* several arrests. ▪ Their efforts have *culminated in* the discovery of a new cancer treatment.
2 [+ *obj*] *somewhat formal* : to be the end or final result of (something) ▪ A bitter feud *culminated* months of tension.

cul·mi·na·tion /ˌkʌlməˈneɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the end or final result of something ▪ This study is the *culmination* of years of research.

cu·lottes /kjuˈlɑːts/ *noun* [*plural*] : short pants for women or girls that are shaped like a skirt ▪ a pair of *culottes*

cul·pa·ble /ˈkʌlpəbəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* : deserving blame : guilty of doing something wrong ▪ They held her *culpable* for the accident. ▪ He's more *culpable* than the others because he's old enough to know better. ▪ (*law*) The defendant is charged with ***culpable negligence***. [=negligence that is regarded as a crime]
– **cul·pa·bil·i·ty** /ˌkʌlpəˈbɪləti/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ She refused to acknowledge her own *culpability*. – **cul·pa·bly** /ˈkʌlpəbli/ *adv* ▪ The defendant was *culpably* negligent.

cul·prit /ˈkʌlprət/ *noun, pl* **-prits** [*count*] : a person who has committed a crime or done something wrong ▪ The police eventually located the *culprits*. — often used figuratively ▪ Lack of exercise and poor diet are the chief/main/real *culprits* in heart disease.

[1]cult /ˈkʌlt/ *noun, pl* **cults** [*count*]
1 : a small religious group that is not part of a larger and more accepted religion and that has beliefs regarded by many people as extreme or dangerous ▪ a satanic *cult* ▪ *cult* members
2 : a situation in which people admire and care about something or someone very much or too much ▪ He criticizes the way journalists promote the ***cult of celebrity*** in modern America. [=the tendency of people to care too much about famous people] ▪ a ***cult of personality*** = a ***personality cult***
3 : a small group of very devoted supporters or fans ▪ a *cult* of admirers ▪ She has developed a *cult* following.
4 *formal* : a system of religious beliefs and rituals ▪ an ancient fertility *cult*

[2]cult *adj, always used before a noun* : very popular among a group of people ▪ a *cult* film/novel ▪ Her works have achieved *cult* status. ▪ The movie is a *cult* hit/classic/favorite.

cul·ti·vate /ˈkʌltəˌveɪt/ *verb* **-vates**; **-vat·ed**; **-vat·ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to prepare and use (soil) for growing plants ▪ Prehistoric peoples settled the area and began to *cultivate* the land. ▪ Some of the fields are *cultivated* while others lie fallow.
2 a : to grow and care for (plants) ▪ a plant that is *cultivated* for its fruit ▪ They survived by *cultivating* vegetables and grain. **b** : to grow or raise (something) under conditions that you can control ▪ pearls from *cultivated* oysters
3 : to improve or develop (something) by careful attention, training, or study ▪ He has carefully *cultivated* his image/reputation. ▪ She *cultivated* a taste for fine wines.
4 : to try to become friendly with (someone) usually to get some advantage for yourself ▪ They're always looking for influential people to *cultivate* as friends.
– **cul·ti·va·tion** /ˌkʌltəˈveɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the *cultivation* of crops

cultivated *adj*
1 a : raised or grown on a farm or under other controlled conditions ▪ *cultivated* fruits/vegetables — compare WILD **b** : prepared and used for growing crops ▪ *cultivated* fields
2 [*more* ~; *most* ~] : having or showing good education, taste, and manners ▪ a very *cultivated* gentleman ▪ a person of *cultivated* [=*refined*] taste

cul·ti·va·tor /ˈkʌltəˌveɪtɚ/ *noun, pl* **-tors** [*count*]
1 : a person who prepares land for planting
2 : a tool or machine that is used to prepare the soil and kill weeds around growing plants

cul·tur·al /ˈkʌltʃərəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : of or relating to a particular group of people and their habits, beliefs, traditions, etc. ▪ *cultural* studies ▪ We studied our *cultural* heritage. ▪ There are some *cultural* differences between us.
2 : of or relating to the fine arts (such as music, theater, painting, etc.) ▪ We attended several *cultural* events over the weekend. ▪ The center provides a wide range of *cultural* activities. ▪ The city is the *cultural* center of the state.
– **cul·tur·al·ly** *adv* ▪ a *culturally* diverse population ▪ *culturally* defined social roles

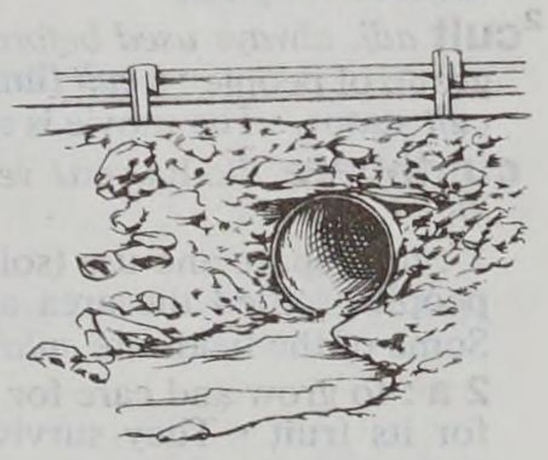
[1]cul·ture /ˈkʌltʃɚ/ *noun, pl* **-tures**
1 a [*noncount*] : the beliefs, customs, arts, etc., of a particular society, group, place, or time ▪ a study of Greek language and *culture* ▪ today's youth *culture* ▪ Her art shows the influence of pop/popular *culture*. **b** [*count*] : a particular society that has its own beliefs, ways of life, art, etc. ▪ an ancient *culture* ▪ It's important to learn about other *cultures*.
2 [*count*] : a way of thinking, behaving, or working that exists in a place or organization (such as a business) ▪ The company's corporate/business *culture* is focused on increasing profits. ▪ There was a ***culture of success*** at the school. [=the school's policies and environment encouraged its students' success]
3 [*noncount*] **a** : artistic activities (such as music, theater, painting, etc.) ▪ an area that has been criticized for its lack of *culture* **b** : appreciation and knowledge of music, theater, painting, etc. ▪ She is a person of *culture*. [=a cultured person]
4 *technical* **a** [*noncount*] : the act or process or growing living material (such as cells or bacteria) in controlled conditions for scientific study ▪ Scientists have been refining techniques for the *culture* of living tissue. **b** [*count*] : a group of cells, bacteria, etc., grown in controlled conditions for scientific study ▪ bacterial/tissue *cultures*
5 [*noncount*] *technical* : the act or process of raising or growing plants, insects, etc., in controlled conditions ▪ bee *culture* ▪ the *culture* of grapes

[2]culture *verb* **-tures**; **-tured**; **-tur·ing** [+ *obj*] *technical* : to grow (something) in controlled conditions ▪ The virus is *cultured* in the laboratory from samples of infected tissue.

cultured *adj*
1 [*more* ~; *most* ~] : having or showing good education, tastes, and manners ▪ a *cultured* person
2 : grown or made under controlled conditions ▪ *cultured* cells/pearls

culture shock *noun* : a feeling of confusion, doubt, or nervousness caused by being in a place (such as a foreign country) that is very different from what you are used to [*noncount*] Foreign students often experience *culture shock* when they first come to the U.S. [*singular*] Moving to the city was a huge *culture shock* for him.

cul•vert /ˈkʌlvɚt/ *noun, pl* **-verts** [*count*] : a drain or pipe that allows water to flow under a road or railroad


culvert

cum /ˈkʊm/ *conj* — used in hyphenated phrases to link nouns that describe a person or thing with two jobs, uses, etc. ▪ He was hired as a cook-*cum*-dishwasher. ▪ a patio-*cum*-sunroom

cum•ber•some /ˈkʌmbɚsəm/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : hard to handle or manage because of size or weight ▪ a *cumbersome* package
2 : complicated and hard to do ▪ The application process is *cumbersome* and time-consuming.
3 : long and difficult to read, say, etc. ▪ a *cumbersome* name ▪ Her expanded job title is really *cumbersome*.

cum•in /ˈkʌmən, ˈkju:mən/ *noun* [*noncount*] : dried seeds that are used as a spice in cooking and that come from a plant related to the carrot

cum laude /kʊmˈlaʊdə/ *adv, formal* : with honor — used in the U.S. to indicate that a student has graduated from a college or university at the third highest of three special levels of achievement ▪ She graduated *cum laude*. — compare MAGNA CUM LAUDE, SUMMA CUM LAUDE

cum•mer•bund /ˈkʌmɚˌbʌnd/ *noun, pl* **-bunds** [*count*] : a wide piece of cloth (such as silk) that is worn around the waist beneath the jacket of a man who is formally dressed — see color picture on page C16

cu•mu•la•tive /ˈkju:mjələtɪv/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : increasing or becoming better or worse over time through a series of additions ▪ the ***cumulative effect(s)*** of smoking on the body [=the effect(s) produced by smoking over a long period of time]
2 : including or adding together all of the things that came before ▪ Their *cumulative* [=*total, overall*] scores will determine the winner.
– **cu•mu•la•tive•ly** *adv* ▪ They have *cumulatively* spent more than a million dollars on the renovations.

cu•mu•lus /ˈkju:mjələs/ *noun, pl* **cu•mu•li** /ˈkju:mjəˌlaɪ/ [*count*] *technical* : a type of thick cloud that is rounded on top and has a flat base

cu•ne•i•form /kjuˈni:jəˌfoɚm, *Brit* ˈkju:nɪˌfɔ:m/ *adj* : relating to or written in a system of writing used in parts of the ancient Middle East ▪ *cuneiform* characters/writing ▪ an ancient *cuneiform* text
– **cuneiform** *noun* [*noncount*]

cun•ni•lin•gus /ˌkʌnɪˈlɪŋgəs/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the act of stimulating a woman's sexual organs with the mouth for sexual pleasure

[1]cun•ning /ˈkʌnɪŋ/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : getting what is wanted in a clever and often deceptive way ▪ a *cunning* criminal ▪ She was *cunning* enough to fool me. ▪ a *cunning* plan
– **cun•ning•ly** *adv* ▪ They *cunningly* dodged our questions.

[2]cunning *noun* [*noncount*] : cleverness or skill especially at tricking people in order to get something ▪ He may be a fraud, but you have to admire his *cunning*. ▪ (*chiefly Brit*) He succeeded through a combination of charm and ***low cunning*** [=clever but morally bad and dishonest methods]

cunt /ˈkʌnt/ *noun, pl* **cunts** [*count*] *offensive + obscene*
1 : a woman's sexual organs
2 a *US* — used as an offensive way to refer to a woman **b** *Brit* — used as an offensive way to refer to a stupid or annoying person ✧ *Cunt* is an extremely offensive word in all of its uses and should be avoided.

[1]cup /ˈkʌp/ *noun, pl* **cups** [*count*]
1 a : a small round container that often has a handle and that is used for drinking liquids (such as tea and coffee) ▪ a coffee *cup* ▪ a paper/plastic *cup* — see picture at PLACE SETTING; see also TEACUP **b** : the liquid that is contained in a cup ▪ How many *cups* (of water/coffee/tea) did you drink? ▪ Would you like another *cup* of tea?
2 *US* : a unit of measurement that is used when you are cooking ✧ A cup is used to measure both dry and liquid ingredients. It is equal to half a pint or 237 milliliters. ▪ two *cups* of flour ▪ four *cups* of milk — see also MEASURING CUP
3 : a large gold or silver cup that is given as a prize for winning a competition or game ▪ The winner will take home the *cup*. — used in the names of some sports competitions in which a cup is the prize ▪ His goal is to win the America's *Cup*. ▪ Our team won the Stanley *Cup*.
4 : something that is shaped like a cup ▪ a custard *cup* — see also EGGCUP, SUCTION CUP
5 *chiefly US* : a food that is served in a cup or small bowl ▪ a ***fruit cup*** [=a mixture of chopped fruits that is served usually as a dessert]
6 *US* : a hard piece of plastic that men and boys wear to protect and support their sexual organs while playing a sport ▪ a protective *cup* — called also (*Brit*) *box*
7 : either one of the parts of a bra that cover the breasts — used especially to describe the size of a bra ▪ a bra with C *cups* ▪ She wears a B *cup*.
8 *US, golf* : the metal or plastic case that is placed in the hole on a putting green; *also* : the hole itself ▪ The shot landed within inches of the *cup*.
in the cup of your hand ✧ If you hold something *in the cup of your hand*, you hold it in your palm with your hand curved like a cup. ▪ He held the seeds *in the cup of his hand*. [=he cupped the seeds in his hand]
not your cup of tea ✧ If something is *not your cup of tea*, you do not like it very much or you are not very good at it. ▪ I'm afraid that skiing just *isn't my cup of tea*. ▪ She admits that stamp collecting *isn't everyone's cup of tea*.

[2]cup *verb* **cups**; **cupped**; **cup•ping** [+ *obj*]
1 : to curve (your hand) into the shape of a cup ▪ He *cupped* his hands around his mouth and shouted at us. ▪ I had to *cup* my hand to my ear in order to hear him.
2 : to put your hand in a curved shape around (something) ▪ He *cupped* his mouth with his hands and shouted at us. ▪ I sat with my chin *cupped* in my hand.

cup•board /ˈkʌbɚd/ *noun, pl* **-boards** [*count*]
1 : a piece of furniture used for storage that has doors and contains shelves ▪ a jelly *cupboard* ▪ kitchen *cupboards* [=*cabinets*] — see picture at KITCHEN
2 *US* : a small room with shelves where you keep cups, dishes, or food
3 *Brit* : a small room where things are stored : CLOSET
skeleton in the/your cupboard see [1]SKELETON

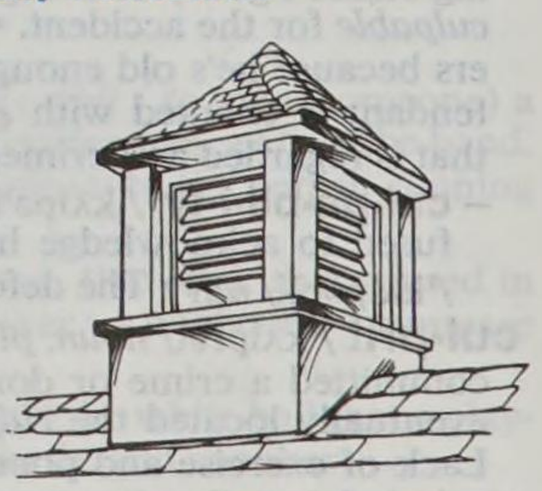
cup•cake /ˈkʌpˌkeɪk/ *noun, pl* **-cakes** [*count*] : a very small cake that is baked in a pan shaped like a cup — see picture at BAKING

cup•ful /ˈkʌpˌfʊl/ *noun, pl* **cup•fuls** /ˈkʌpˌfʊlz/ *also* **cups•ful** /ˈkʌpsˌfʊl/ [*count*] : the amount held by a cup ▪ a *cupful* of sugar

cu•pid /ˈkju:pəd/ *noun, pl* **-pids**
1 ***Cupid*** [*singular*] : the god of sexual love in ancient Rome
2 [*count*] : a picture or statue of Cupid usually shown as a naked boy with wings who is holding a bow and arrow ▪ a valentine decorated with hearts and *cupids*
play Cupid : to try to get two people to become romantically involved with each other ▪ The movie is about a woman who *plays Cupid* with her brother and her best friend.

cu•pid•i•ty /kjuˈpɪdəti/ *noun* [*noncount*] *formal* : a strong desire for money or possessions : GREED ▪ The evidence revealed the *cupidity* of the company's directors.

cu•po•la /ˈkju:pələ/ *noun, pl* **-las** [*count*]
1 : a rounded roof or part of a roof : DOME
2 *US* : a small structure that is built on top of a roof


cupola

cup•pa /ˈkʌpə/ *noun, pl* **-pas** [*count*] *Brit, informal* : a cup of tea ▪ I could use a good *cuppa*.

cur /ˈkɚ/ *noun, pl* **curs** [*count*] *old-fashioned* : a dog that is a mix of different breeds : a low, bad, or disliked dog ▪ a worthless *cur* [=*mutt, mongrel*]

cur•able /ˈkjurəbəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : possible to cure ▪ Most cases are *curable* with proper treatment. ▪ a *curable* disease ▪ Is the patient *curable*? — opposite INCURABLE

cu•rate /ˈkjurət/ *noun, pl* **-rates** [*count*] : a member of the clergy in certain churches (such as the Anglican church) who assists the priest in charge of a church or a group of churches

curate's egg *Brit* : something that has both good and bad parts or qualities ▪ The concert was a bit of a *curate's egg*: good in some parts, bad in others.

cu•ra•tive /ˈkjurətɪv/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : able to cure diseases or heal people ▪ an herb believed to have *curative* powers/properties

cu•ra•tor /ˈkjurˌeɪtɚ, *Brit* kjʊˈreɪtə/ *noun, pl* **-tors** [*count*] : a person who is in charge of the things in a museum, zoo, etc.

[1]curb /ˈkɚb/ *noun, pl* **curbs** [*count*]

1 *US* ***curb*** *or Brit* ***kerb*** : a short border along the edge of a street that is usually made of stone or concrete ▪ We sat on the *curb* eating our ice cream. — see picture at STREET

2 : something that controls or limits something else — usually plural ▪ Many companies are protesting the new price/trade *curbs*. [=(more commonly) *checks, restrictions*] — often + *on* ▪ government policies that are designed to put a *curb on* spending [=to limit/reduce spending]

[2]curb *verb* **curbs**; **curbed**; **curb•ing** [+ *obj*] : to control or limit (something) ▪ The legislation is intended to *curb* price and wage increases. ▪ pills designed to *curb* your appetite

curb•side (*US*) *or Brit* **kerb•side** /ˈkɚbˌsaɪd/ *noun, pl* **-sides** [*count*] : SIDEWALK — often used before another noun ▪ a *curbside* vendor ▪ *curbside* recycling programs

curd /ˈkɚd/ *noun, pl* **curds** : a thick substance that forms when milk becomes sour and that is used to make cheese [*plural*] The *curds* have separated from the whey. [*noncount*] The *curd* has separated from the whey. — see also BEAN CURD, LEMON CURD

cur•dle /ˈkɚdl̩/ *verb* **cur•dles**; **cur•dled**; **cur•dling** : to thicken and separate into liquids and solids : to form curds [*no obj*] The milk has *curdled*. [=the milk is sour] ▪ Too much heat will make the custard *curdle*. [+ *obj*] Too much heat will *curdle* the custard.

make someone's blood curdle see BLOOD

[1]cure /ˈkjɚ/ *noun, pl* **cures** [*count*]

1 : something (such as a drug or medical treatment) that stops a disease and makes someone healthy again ▪ The disease has no *cure*. [=the disease cannot be cured; the disease is incurable] — often + *for* ▪ There is no *cure for* the common cold. ▪ The drug was sold as a *cure for* a variety of ailments.

2 : something that ends a problem or improves a bad situation : SOLUTION ▪ This is a problem that has no easy *cure*. — often + *for* ▪ The highway construction program was presented as a *cure for* unemployment. ▪ Exercise is a good *cure for* stress.

3 : the act of making someone healthy again after an illness ▪ The doctors were unable to effect a *cure* because the disease had spread too far.

[2]cure *verb* **cures**; **cured**; **cur•ing**

1 [+ *obj*] **a** : to make (someone) healthy again after an illness ▪ Her doctors have pronounced her *cured*. [=have said that she is no longer ill] — often + *of* ▪ A team of doctors *cured* him *of* a rare blood disease. **b** : to stop (a disease) by using drugs or other medical treatments ▪ Doctors *cured* his disease. ▪ The infection can be *cured* with antibiotics.

2 [+ *obj*] : to provide a solution for (something) ▪ Drinking won't *cure* [=*solve*] any of your problems.

3 [+ *obj*] : to cause (someone) to stop having a harmful habit, wrong idea, etc. : to make (someone) free *of* something ▪ She was *cured of* any illusions she had about college after her first semester. ▪ My wife *cured* me *of* most of my bad habits.

4 : to change something through a chemical or physical process so that it can be preserved for a long time [+ *obj*] *cure* bacon/meat ▪ The fish was *cured* with salt. ▪ olives *cured* in brine [*no obj*] The hay is *curing* in the sun.

5 [*no obj*] : to dry and become hard ▪ It takes several days for concrete to *cure*. [=*harden, set*]

cure–all /ˈkjɚˌɑːl/ *noun, pl* **-alls** [*count*] : a cure or solution for any illness or problem ▪ The drug is effective, but it is not a *cure-all*. — often + *for* ▪ There is no *cure-all for* these problems.

cur•few /ˈkɚfju/ *noun, pl* **-fews**

1 a : an order or law that requires people to be indoors after a certain time at night [*count*] The teens were stopped by police for violating the *curfew*. ▪ The city ordered/imposed a *curfew* soon after the rioting started. [*noncount*] The town was placed under *curfew*. **b** [*noncount*] : the period of time when such an order or law is in effect ▪ No one is allowed on the streets during the *curfew*.

2 [*count*] *chiefly US* : the time set by a parent at which a child has to be back home after going out ▪ He has a 10 o'clock *curfew*.

cu•rio /ˈkjɚriˌoʊ/ *noun, pl* **-ri•os** [*count*] : a small and unusual object that is considered interesting or attractive ▪ She loves to browse the shops in small towns, looking for *curios*.

cu•ri•os•i•ty /ˌkjɚriˈɑːsəti/ *noun, pl* **-ties**

1 [*noncount*] : the desire to learn or know more about something or someone ▪ Her natural *curiosity* led her to ask more questions. ▪ The arrival of a construction crew at their house attracted/sparked/aroused the *curiosity* of their neighbors. ▪ The movie failed to satisfy her *curiosity* about the assassination. ▪ intellectual *curiosity* ▪ He went into the store out of *curiosity*. [=because he was curious to see what was in the store]

✧ The expression ***curiosity killed the cat*** is used to warn people that too much curiosity can be dangerous.

2 [*count*] : something that is interesting because it is unusual ▪ Tobacco was once a *curiosity* in Europe. ▪ The antique shop was full of *curiosities*.

cu•ri•ous /ˈkjɚijəs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : having a desire to learn or know more about something or someone ▪ The cat was naturally *curious* about its new surroundings. ▪ They were *curious* to find out who won the game. ▪ We're *curious* about why you never called us. ▪ The *curious* [=*inquisitive*] reader can find more information in the back of the book. ▪ I'm *curious* to know more about her.

2 : strange, unusual, or unexpected ▪ She found a *curious* old clock in the attic. ▪ That's *curious* [=*weird, strange, odd*]—I thought I left my keys right here. ▪ The birds were engaged in some *curious* behavior. ▪ Their music is a *curious* blend of disco and rock. ▪ By a *curious* coincidence, they bought a house the same day their old one burned down. ▪ The story of what really happened to them that day gets ***curiouser and curiouser***. [=stranger and stranger]

— **cu•ri•ous•ly** *adv* ▪ She was *curiously* uninterested in what other people thought was important. ▪ *Curiously* [=*strangely*] (enough), the dog returned to its home 70 miles away. ▪ He looked at the strange object *curiously*.

[1]curl /ˈkɚl/ *verb* **curls**; **curled**; **curl•ing**

1 : to twist or form (something) into a round or curved shape [+ *obj*] The boy *curled* [=*wound*] the spaghetti around his fork. ▪ She *curls* her hair every morning. ▪ She took off her shoes and *curled* (up) her toes. ▪ Can you *curl* your tongue? ▪ The baby's fingers were tightly *curled*. ▪ She *curled* (up) her legs under her. ▪ The snake *curled* itself around its prey. [*no obj*] My hair *curls* naturally. ▪ The cat *curled* into a ball and went to sleep.

2 [*no obj*] : to become curved or rounded ▪ The old posters were *curling* (up) at the edges.

3 *always followed by a preposition or adverb* [*no obj*] : to move in curves or circles ▪ We saw smoke *curling from* the cottage chimney. ▪ A snake *curled around* his leg.

curl up [*phrasal verb*] : to lie or sit with your back bent forward and with your legs pulled up close to your body ▪ She *curled up* on the couch for a nap. ▪ It's a good night to stay home and *curl up* with a book and a cup of tea. — see also CURL 1, 2 (above)

curl your lip : to move the corner of your lip up in an expression that usually shows disgust or disapproval ▪ She *curled her lip* when his name was mentioned. ▪ Her *lip curled* in disgust.

make your hair curl see HAIR

make your toes curl see [1]TOE

[2]curl *noun, pl* **curls**

1 a [*count*] : a piece of hair that is formed into a round shape ▪ Her daughter has cute blonde *curls*. ▪ She likes to wear her hair in *curls*. **b** [*singular*] : the ability of hair to form curls ▪ The conditioner will help you keep the *curl* of your hair. ▪ His hair has a natural *curl*.

2 [*count*] : something that is curved or has a round shape ▪ chocolate *curls* ▪ a *curl* of smoke

3 [*count*] : an exercise in which a weight held in the hands is brought toward the shoulders and down again by bending either the wrists or the elbows ▪ He did 12 wrist/bicep *curls*.

curl•er /ˈkɚlɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

1 : a small plastic or metal tube around which hair is wrapped to make it curl ▪ Her hair was in *curlers*. [=*rollers*]

2 : a device that curls something ▪ an eyelash *curler*

cur•lew /'kəlu, *Brit* 'kəlju/ *noun, pl* **cur•lews** *or* **cur•lew** [*count*] : a large brown bird with long legs and a long thin bill that lives near the water

cur•li•cue /'kəli,kju:/ *noun, pl* **-cues** [*count*] : a decoratively curved line or shape ▪ round loops and *curlicues* ▪ *Curlicues* were carved into the wood.

curl•ing /'kəlɪŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a game in which two teams of four players slide special stones over ice toward a circle

curling iron *noun, pl* ~ **irons** [*count*] *US* : a device with a long metal part that is heated to curl hair — called also (*Brit*) *curling tongs*

curly /'kəli/ *adj* **curl•i•er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : having curls ▪ She has *curly* hair and blue eyes.
2 : formed into a round shape ▪ *curly* french fries ▪ The dog's tail is *curly*.

curly brace *noun, pl* ~ **braces** [*count*] : ²BRACE 3

curly bracket *noun, pl* ~ **-ets** [*count*] : ²BRACE 3

cur•mud•geon /kə'mʌʤən/ *noun, pl* **-geons** [*count*] *old-fashioned* : a person (especially an old man) who is easily annoyed or angered and who often complains ▪ a lonely old *curmudgeon*
– **cur•mud•geon•ly** *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ a *curmudgeonly* [=*bad-tempered*] old man

cur•rant /'kərənt/ *noun, pl* **-rants** [*count*]
1 : a small seedless raisin that is used in baking and cooking
2 : a small red, black, or white berry that is often used in making jams and jellies ▪ black/red *currants*

Do not confuse *currant* with *current*.

cur•ren•cy /'kərənsi/ *noun, pl* **-cies**
1 a : the money that a country uses : a specific kind of money [*count*] A new *currency* has been introduced in the foreign exchange market. ▪ foreign *currencies* [*noncount*] paper *currency* ▪ They were paid in U.S. *currency*. — see also HARD CURRENCY **b** [*noncount*] : something that is used as money ▪ Furs were once traded as *currency*.
2 [*noncount*] : the quality or state of being used or accepted by many people ▪ His ideas are gaining *currency* [=are becoming widely accepted] in the government. ▪ The word has not yet won/achieved widespread *currency*.
3 [*noncount*] : the quality or state of being current ▪ I'm not sure about the accuracy and *currency* of their information.

¹cur•rent /'kərənt/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]
1 *always used before a noun* : happening or existing now : belonging to or existing in the present time ▪ the *current* month ▪ the magazine's *current* issue ▪ The dictionary's *current* edition has 10,000 new words. ▪ the *current* political crisis ▪ By *current* [=*present-day*] standards, they were very young when they got married. ▪ Who is your *current* employer? ▪ *current* trends/fashions ▪ *current* ideas about education
2 *not used before a noun, chiefly US* : aware of what is happening in a particular area of activity ▪ As a teacher I have to stay *current* [=*up-to-date*] in my field, which is biology. ▪ We need to keep *current* with the latest information.
– **cur•rent•ly** *adv* ▪ She is *currently* [=*presently*] living in Texas. ▪ The product is not *currently* available. ▪ *Currently* [=at the present time], police have no suspects in the case.

²current *noun, pl* **-rents**
1 [*count*] : a continuous movement of water or air in the same direction ▪ Strong *currents* pulled the swimmer out to sea. ▪ Air *currents* carried the balloon for miles.
2 : a flow of electricity [*count*] a strong/weak electrical *current* [*noncount*] The circuit supplies *current* to the saw. — see also ALTERNATING CURRENT, DIRECT CURRENT
3 [*count*] *formal* : an idea, feeling, opinion, etc., that is shared by many or most of the people in a group ▪ general *currents* in politics ▪ intellectual *currents* — often + *of* ▪ He is going against the *current of* public opinion. ▪ There was a *current of* discontent within the company.

Do not confuse *current* with *currant*.

current account *noun, pl* ~ **-counts** [*count*] *Brit* : CHECKING ACCOUNT

current events *noun* [*plural*] *chiefly US* : important events that are happening in the world ▪ She reads several newspapers so she can keep track of *current events*. ▪ Contestants are quizzed on *current events*. — called also *current affairs*

cur•ric•u•lum /kə'rɪkjələm/ *noun, pl* **-la** /-lə/ *also* **-lums** [*count*] *formal* : the courses that are taught by a school, college, etc. ▪ the undergraduate/mathematics *curriculum* ▪ The college has a liberal arts *curriculum*.
– **cur•ric•u•lar** /kə'rɪkjələ/ *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ *curricular* changes in the science program ▪ *curricular* materials — see also EXTRACURRICULAR

cur•ric•u•lum vi•tae /kə'rɪkjələm'vi:,taɪ/ *noun, pl* ~ **vitae** [*count*] *chiefly Brit* : a short document that describes your education, work experience, etc. : RÉSUMÉ — called also *CV*, (*US*) *vita* ✧ In U.S. English, a person who is applying for a job as a scientist, doctor, or professor at a college or university is asked to submit a *curriculum vitae*. For other jobs, the usual word in U.S. English is *résumé*.

curried *adj, always used before a noun* : cooked with curry powder ▪ *curried* chicken

¹cur•ry /'kəri/ *noun, pl* **-ries**
1 : a food, dish, or sauce in Indian cooking that is seasoned with a mixture of spices [*noncount*] We had chicken *curry* for dinner. [*count*] a delicious lamb *curry* — often used before another noun ▪ *curry* sauce/paste
2 [*noncount*] : CURRY POWDER ▪ The recipe calls for a tablespoon of *curry*.

²curry *verb* **-ries**; **-ried**; **-ry•ing**
curry favor *disapproving* : to try to get the support or approval of a person or group in order to get some advantage for yourself — often + *with* ▪ He is trying to *curry favor with* the voters by promising a tax cut if he's elected.

curry powder *noun* [*noncount*] : a mixture of spices that are used in Indian cooking to give a hot flavor to food

¹curse /'kəs/ *noun, pl* **curs•es**
1 [*count*] : an offensive word that people say when they are angry : SWEARWORD ▪ I heard him utter a *curse* before the microphone was shut off.
2 [*count*] : magical words that are said to cause trouble or bad luck for someone or the condition that results when such words are said ▪ The witch pronounced a *curse* in some strange language. ▪ People believe that someone put a *curse* on the house. ▪ There is a *curse* on that old house. = That old house is under a *curse*.
3 [*count*] : a cause of trouble or bad luck ▪ His fame turned out to be a *curse*, not a blessing.
4 ***the curse*** *old-fashioned + informal* : MENSTRUATION

²curse *verb* **curses**; **cursed**; **curs•ing**
1 a [*no obj*] : to use offensive words when you speak ▪ He always starts *cursing* [=*swearing*] when he gets drunk. **b** [+ *obj*] : to say offensive words to (someone) ▪ She angrily *cursed* him [=swore at him] as he turned and walked away.
c [+ *obj*] : to say or or think bad things about (someone or something) ▪ He *cursed* himself for being so careless. ▪ She *cursed* her bad luck.
2 [+ *obj*] : to say words that are believed to have a magical power to cause trouble or bad luck for (someone or something) : to put a curse on (someone or something) ▪ In the book the evil witch *curses* the villagers.
curse out [*phrasal verb*] ***curse (someone) out*** *US, informal* : to say angry and offensive words to (someone) ▪ My boss *cursed* me *out*.

cursed /'kəsəd *before nouns*, 'kəst *elsewhere*/ *adj*
1 : affected by a curse that causes bad things to happen ▪ Some people think the old house is *cursed*.
2 : affected by something bad ▪ The team has been *cursed* [=*plagued*] by injuries all year. ▪ a people *cursed* with famine
3 *always used before a noun, informal + old-fashioned* : annoying or unpleasant ▪ His *cursed* stupidity got him in trouble again. ▪ I can't get this *cursed* radio to work.

cur•sive /'kəsɪv/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a type of handwriting in which all the letters in a word are connected to each other ▪ He writes in *cursive* when he takes notes.
– **cursive** *adj* ▪ *cursive* handwriting

cur•sor /'kəsə/ *noun, pl* **-sors** [*count*] : a mark on a computer screen that shows the place where information is being entered or read — see picture at COMPUTER

cur•so•ry /'kəsəri/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal + often disapproving* : done or made quickly ▪ Only a *cursory* inspection of the building's electrical wiring was done. ▪ The mayor gave a *cursory* glance at the report. ▪ Even the most *cursory* look at the organization's records shows problems.
– **cur•so•ri•ly** /'kəsərəli/ *adv* ▪ The battle is only mentioned *cursorily* in the book.

curt /'kət/ *adj* **curter**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~] : said or done in a quick and impolite way ▪ He gave only a *curt* reply to the question. ▪ a *curt* refusal ▪ a *curt* nod
– **curt•ly** *adv* ▪ He *curtly* dismissed the question. – **curt•ness** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ I was offended by his *curtness*.

cur•tail /kɚˈteɪl/ *verb* **-tails**; **-tailed**; **-tail•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to reduce or limit (something) ▪ The new laws are an effort to *curtail* illegal drug use. ▪ We have to severely/drastically *curtail* [=*cut back*] our expenses. ▪ School activities are being *curtailed* due to a lack of funds.

– **cur•tail•ment** /kɚˈteɪlmənt/ *noun, pl* **-ments** [*count, noncount*]

[1]cur•tain /ˈkɚtn̩/ *noun, pl* **-tains**

1 [*count*] : a piece of cloth that hangs down from above a window and can be used to cover the window ▪ She opened/closed the curtains. ▪ She drew/pulled the *curtains* (open/closed). — see picture at WINDOW

2 [*count*] : a piece of cloth or other material that is hung to protect or hide something ▪ a shower *curtain* ▪ *Curtains* separated the hospital beds. — see also IRON CURTAIN

3 a [*count*] : a very large piece of cloth that hangs at the front of a stage and that is raised when a performance begins and lowered when a performance ends ▪ When the *curtain* rises after intermission, the set is bare and the main character finds himself alone. ▪ As the *curtain* falls for the last time, we see a young woman holding a dying man in her arms. — often used figuratively ▪ The ***curtain came down*** on his film career [=his film career ended] after a lifetime in show business. ▪ His injury ***brought down the curtain*** on his remarkable career. = His injury ***brought the curtain down*** on his remarkable career. [=his injury ended his career] — see picture at THEATER **b** [*singular*] : the time when a curtain is raised or lowered at the beginning or end of a performance ▪ The audience applauded enthusiastically after the ***final curtain***. [=after the curtain was lowered at the end of the performance] ▪ ***Curtain times*** are 7:30 p.m. on Saturday and 2:00 p.m. on Sunday. [=the performance begins at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday and 2:00 p.m. on Sunday]

4 [*count*] : something that covers or hides something else — usually + *of* ▪ A *curtain of* smoke hung at the edge of the forest. ▪ It was hard to see their faces through the *curtain of* darkness.

be curtains for *informal* : to be the end, failure, or death of (someone or something) ▪ It looks like *it's curtains for* the mayor after this election. [=the mayor will not be elected again] ▪ If they don't win today's game, it'll ***be/mean/spell curtains for*** their hopes of winning the championship. [=their hopes will be ended]

[2]curtain *verb* **-tains**; **-tained**; **-tain•ing**

curtain off [*phrasal verb*] ***curtain (something) off*** *or* ***curtain off (something)*** : to separate or cover (something) by using a curtain ▪ The booth was *curtained off* on three sides. ▪ The back of the room was *curtained off* for privacy.

cur•tained *adj, always used before a noun* : decorated or covered with curtains ▪ *curtained* windows ▪ a *curtained* booth

curtain call *noun, pl* ~ **calls** [*count*] : the time when a performer returns to the stage at the end of a performance in response to the applause of the audience ▪ The singer came back for one more *curtain call*.

cur•tain–rais•er /ˈkɚtn̩ˌreɪzɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a short performance or event that comes before the main performance or event ▪ The magic act was just a *curtain-raiser* for the circus performers.

curt•sy *also* **curt•sey** /ˈkɚtsi/ *noun, pl* **curt•sies** *also* **curtseys** [*count*] : a formal way of greeting an important person (such as a king or queen) in which a woman shows respect by placing one foot slightly behind the other and bending her knees

– **curtsy** *also* **curtsey** *verb* **curtsies** *also* **curtseys**; **curtsied** *also* **curt•seyed**; **curt•sy•ing** *also* **curt•sey•ing** [*no obj*] ▪ She *curtsied* before the queen.

cur•va•ceous /kɚˈveɪʃəs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *of a woman* : having an attractively curved body ▪ a *curvaceous* young actress ▪ a *curvaceous* figure

cur•va•ture /ˈkɚvəʧɚ/ *noun*

1 *technical* : the amount that something is curved [*count*] The lenses have different *curvatures*. — often + *of* ▪ the *curvature of* the earth [*noncount*] The machine measures the eyeball's degree of *curvature*.

2 [*noncount*] *medical* : a condition in which your spine is curved in an abnormal way ▪ a disease that can cause *curvature* of the spine

[1]curve /ˈkɚv/ *noun, pl* **curves** [*count*]

1 : a smooth, rounded line, shape, path, etc. ▪ The dog's tail has a slight *curve*. ▪ There is a sharp/gentle *curve* coming up in the road.

2 *technical* : a curved line on a graph that shows how something changes or is affected by one or more conditions ▪ the price *curve* in relation to inflation ▪ the population growth *curve* — see also LEARNING CURVE

3 : a curving line or shape of the human body and especially of a woman's body — usually plural ▪ The dress follows the *curves* of the body. ▪ voluptuous *curves*

4 *baseball* : CURVEBALL ▪ The pitcher threw him a *curve*. — often used figuratively ▪ Life has ***thrown him some curves*** [=*thrown him some curveballs*] over the years but he's never given up. [=he has had some difficult and unexpected problems in his life] ▪ The reporter *threw the actress a curve* [=surprised her with a difficult and unexpected question] when he asked about her past drug use.

ahead of the curve *chiefly US, approving* : faster about doing something than other people, companies, etc. ▪ The company has been *ahead of the curve* in adopting new technologies. [=has adopted new technologies faster than other companies]

behind the curve *chiefly US, disapproving* : slower about doing something than other people, companies, etc. ▪ We are *behind the curve* when it comes to advances in medicine. [=we have not been keeping up with the latest advances as well as others]

[2]curve *verb* **curves**; **curved**; **curv•ing**

1 [*no obj*] : to form a curve : to turn or change from a straight line, shape, or path to a smooth, rounded one ▪ The tail *curves* over the dog's back. ▪ The road *curves* to the left. ▪ The fence *curves* in toward the side of the house. ▪ The railing *curves* out near the observation platform. ▪ a *curving* path

2 [+ *obj*] : to cause (something) to form a curve ▪ He *curved* [=*bent*] the wire slightly.

curve•ball /ˈkɚvˌbɑːl/ *noun, pl* **-balls** [*count*] *baseball* : a pitch that is thrown with spin so that the ball curves in the air ▪ The batter struck out on a *curveball*. — often used figuratively ▪ Life has ***thrown him a few curveballs*** in recent years. [=he has had some difficult and unexpected problems in his life] — called also *curve*

curved *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : having a rounded shape ▪ a *curved* wall/blade ▪ *curved* handlebars ▪ The animal's horns are slightly *curved*.

curvy /ˈkɚvi/ *adj* **curv•i•er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~] : having many curves ▪ a *curvy* road ▪ *curvy* lines

[1]cush•ion /ˈkʊʃən/ *noun, pl* **-ions** [*count*]

1 : a soft object or part that is used to make something (such as a seat) more comfortable or to protect a surface from damage : a soft pillow, pad, etc. ▪ a seat/sofa *cushion* ▪ There is a *cushion* under the rug to protect the floor. ▪ a *cushion* of air [=a layer of air that provides support or protection to something] — see picture at LIVING ROOM

2 : any one of the rubber parts that the ball bounces off along the inner edges of a billiard table

3 : something (such as an extra amount of money) that you can use to reduce the bad effect of something (such as an unexpected problem or expense) ▪ We didn't have a financial *cushion* when my husband lost his job. — often + *against* ▪ We use our savings as a *cushion against* major expenses.

4 : a lead in a game or competition that is large enough to allow the leader to feel confident about winning — usually singular ▪ The team enjoyed a 6–0 *cushion* in the last inning.

[2]cushion *verb* **-ions**; **-ioned**; **-ion•ing** [+ *obj*] : to make (something, such as a fall or collision) less severe or painful : to soften or reduce the bad effect of (something) ▪ The pile of leaves helped *cushion* his fall. ▪ The tires help *cushion* the ride. [=help make the ride smoother] ▪ The tax cut is meant to ***cushion the blow/impact*** of soaring gas prices. — often + *against* or *from* ▪ The helmet *cushions* the head *against* violent collisions. ▪ The tax cut should *cushion* the economy *from* the effect of soaring gas prices.

– **cushioned** *adj* ▪ a *cushioned* seat/chair

cu•shion•ing /ˈkʊʃənɪŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : soft material that is used for comfort or protection ▪ The padded insert in the sneaker provides extra *cushioning*.

cushy /ˈkʊʃi/ *adj* **cush•i•er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~] *informal* : very easy and pleasant : involving little difficulty or effort ▪ His uncle got him a *cushy* job in the city government.

cusp /ˈkʌsp/ *noun, pl* **cusps** [*count*] *technical* : a pointed end or part where two curves meet ▪ the *cusp* of a tooth

on the cusp : at the point when something is about to change to something else ▪ She is *on the cusp* [=*on the verge*] of being a star. ▪ *on the cusp* between childhood and adolescence ▪ I was born *on the cusp* between Leo and Virgo.

cus•pi•dor /'kʌspəˌdoɚ/ *noun, pl* **-dors** [*count*] *chiefly US* : SPITTOON

cuss /'kʌs/ *verb* **cuss•es**; **cussed**; **cuss•ing** [*no obj*] *US, informal* : to use offensive words when you speak : CURSE ▪ She started to yell and *cuss* as soon as she saw him.

cuss out [*phrasal verb*] ***cuss (someone) out*** *or* ***cuss out (someone)*** *US, informal* : to say angry and offensive words to (someone) ▪ He *cussed* me *out* for crashing his pickup truck. ▪ We got *cussed out* [=*cursed out*] by the boss for missing the deadline.

cuss•word /'kʌsˌwɚd/ *noun, pl* **-words** [*count*] *US, informal* : an offensive word that people say when they are angry : CURSE, SWEARWORD

cus•tard /'kʌstɚd/ *noun, pl* **-tards** [*count, noncount*] : a type of sweet food that is made with eggs and milk
– **cus•tardy** /'kʌstɚdi/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ a *custardy* dessert/filling

cus•to•di•al /ˌkʌ'stoʊdijəl/ *adj, always used before a noun*
1 *law* : having the responsibility for taking care of a child : having custody of a child ▪ Her mother is the *custodial* parent.
2 *US* : relating to the care of a building, equipment, or land ▪ *custodial* duties
3 *Brit, law* : involving punishment that requires a criminal to spend time in a prison ▪ a ***custodial sentence***

cus•to•di•an /ˌkʌ'stoʊdijən/ *noun, pl* **-ans** [*count*]
1 *formal* : someone who keeps and protects something valuable for another person — often + *of* ▪ The court appointed him *custodian of* the dead author's manuscripts. — often used figuratively ▪ The museums are *custodians* of culture.
2 *US* : a person who cleans and takes care of a building : JANITOR ▪ a school *custodian*

cus•to•dy /'kʌstədi/ *noun* [*noncount*]
1 *law* : the legal right to take care of a child (such as a child whose parents are divorced) ▪ She has sole *custody* of her daughter. ▪ The judge granted/awarded *custody* to the grandparents. ▪ The parents have ***joint custody***. [=both parents have custody] ▪ a bitter ***custody battle*** [=a legal fight between divorced parents about who will take care of a child]
2 : the state of being kept in a prison or jail — used after *in* or *into* ▪ Several suspects in the killing are *in custody*. ▪ He was taken *into* (police) *custody* last night and will be charged with murder today. ▪ The witness is ***in protective custody***. [=is being kept in a safe place by the police]
3 *formal* : the act of protecting or taking care of something ▪ The bank provides safe *custody* for valuables. — often + *of* ▪ The artist's paintings are in the *custody of* the museum.

[1]cus•tom /'kʌstəm/ *noun, pl* **-toms**
1 : an action or way of behaving that is usual and traditional among the people in a particular group or place [*count*] tribal/local/family/ancient *customs* ▪ social *customs* ▪ an English/Indian *custom* ▪ It is the *custom* for the bride to wear a white dress on her wedding day. [*noncount*] According to *custom*, the festivities begin at dusk. ▪ It's a matter of *custom*.
2 [*singular*] : something that is done regularly by a person ▪ She had breakfast in bed, as was her *custom*. [=*habit*]
3 ***customs*** [*plural*] **a** : taxes or fees that are paid to the government when goods come into or go out of a country — often used before another noun ▪ *customs* duties **b** : the place at an airport, border, etc., where government officers collect customs on goods and look for things that people are trying to bring into a country illegally ▪ We went through *customs* at the airport without any difficulty. ▪ It took us a long time to ***clear customs*** at the border. — often used before another noun ▪ a *customs* agent/officer/inspector
4 [*noncount*] *Brit, formal* : the practice of regularly going to the same shop or business to buy things or services ▪ As new shops have opened people have been taking their *custom* [=*business*] elsewhere.

[2]custom *adj, always used before a noun, chiefly US*
1 : made to fit the needs or requirements of a particular person ▪ *custom* furniture ▪ The new kitchen will have *custom* cabinets. ▪ *custom* designs ▪ *custom* [=*custom-made*] clothes ▪ a *custom* [=*custom-built*] home/motorcycle
2 : doing work that fits the needs or requirements of a particular person ▪ a *custom* tailor ▪ a *custom* furniture shop

cus•tom•ary /'kʌstəˌmeri, *Brit* 'kʌstəmri/ *adj*
1 : usually done in a particular situation or at a particular place or time ▪ He forgot the *customary* "thank you." ▪ It is *customary* to hold the door open for someone who is entering a building behind you.
2 *always used before a noun* : usual or typical of a particular person ▪ She dressed in her *customary* fashion. ▪ He did the work with his *customary* efficiency.
– **cus•tom•ar•i•ly** /ˌkʌstə'merəli, *Brit* 'kʌstəmrəli/ *adv* ▪ *Customarily*, people wear black to funerals. ▪ Our families *customarily* get together for a camping trip each summer.

cus•tom–built /'kʌstəm'bɪlt/ *adj* : built to fit the needs or requirements of a particular person ▪ a *custom-built* home ▪ The car is *custom-built*.

cus•tom•er /'kʌstəmɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]
1 : someone who buys goods or services from a business ▪ She is one of our best/regular *customers*. ▪ Remember, the *customer* is always right. [=never argue with a customer] — often used before another noun ▪ The company has good/poor *customer* service. ▪ *customer* satisfaction
2 *informal* : a person who has a particular quality ▪ He is one tough/tricky *customer*. [=he is a tough/tricky person] ▪ She's a pretty cool *customer*.

cus•tom•ize *also Brit* **cus•tom•ise** /'kʌstəˌmaɪz/ *verb* **-iz•es**; **-ized**; **-iz•ing** [+ *obj*] : to change (something) in order to fit the needs or requirements of a person, business, etc. ▪ The telephone company has offered to *customize* a plan for our business. ▪ The program can be *customized* to serve different purposes.
– **cus•tom•iz•able** *also Brit* **cus•tom•is•able** /ˌkʌstə'maɪzəbəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ a *customizable* van ▪ *customizable* software – **customized** *adj* ▪ a *customized* van – **cus•tom•i•za•tion** *also Brit* **cus•tom•i•sa•tion** /ˌkʌstəmə'zeɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ software *customization*

cus•tom–made /'kʌstəm'meɪd/ *adj* : made to fit the needs or requirements of a particular person ▪ All his clothes are *custom-made*. ▪ *custom-made* curtains/furniture

[1]cut /'kʌt/ *verb* **cuts**; **cut**; **cut•ting**
1 a : to use a sharp tool (such as a knife) to open or divide (something, such as paper or wood) [+ *obj*] *Cut* the paper along/on the dotted line (with a pair of scissors). ▪ *cutting* a piece of string ▪ He uses the ax to *cut* wood. ▪ The meat is so tender you can *cut* it with a fork. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ The excitement/tension in the room was so thick ***you could cut it with a knife***. [=there was a lot of excitement/tension in the room] [*no obj*] *Cut* along/on the dotted line. ▪ The saw easily *cuts* through metal. ▪ She *cut* into the melon with a knife. **b** [+ *obj*] : to make a hole or wound in (a person's skin) ▪ I *cut* myself while shaving. ▪ I *cut* my finger on a sharp piece of metal. = A sharp piece of metal *cut* me (on the finger). ▪ I had a *cut* finger. ▪ We were fighting, and he tried to *cut* me with his knife. ▪ Pieces of broken glass *cut* her face and arms. ▪ He fell and *cut* his head open on a sharp rock. **c** [+ *obj*] : to make (a hole) in something by using a sharp tool ▪ They *cut* a hole in the wall for the new window. ▪ Doctors begin by *cutting* a small incision in the chest. ▪ *Cut* several slits in the top of the crust to allow air to escape. **d** [+ *obj*] : to divide or separate parts of (something) by using a sharp tool ▪ It's time to *cut* [=*slice*] the cake! ▪ I'll *cut* the apple in half so you both can have some. ▪ Would you *cut* me a slice of bread? = Would you *cut* a slice of bread for me? — often + *into* ▪ Add one large onion that has been *cut into* one-inch pieces. ▪ The chicken is *cut into* long strips and served on top of the salad. — often + *from* ▪ Her walls were covered with pictures *cut from* magazines. ▪ a piece of meat that is *cut from* the hind end of the animal — often + *off* ▪ She was *cutting off* pieces of watermelon and giving them to the children.
2 [*no obj*] **a** : to be able to cut something ▪ This knife doesn't *cut* well. **b** : to be able to be cut ▪ Aluminum foil *cuts* easily with scissors.
3 [+ *obj*] : to make (hair, grass, etc.) shorter by using a sharp tool (such as scissors) ▪ I *cut* my hair short for the summer. ▪ Where'd you get your hair *cut*? ▪ I need to *cut* [=*trim*] my nails; they're way too long. ▪ She keeps her nails *cut* short. ▪ The grass in our yard needs to be *cut*. [=*mowed*] ▪ the smell of fresh-*cut* grass ▪ The wood is already ***cut to size/length***. [=it has already been cut so that it is the proper size/length]
4 [+ *obj*] **a** : to give (hair or clothing) a certain style by cutting it — usually used as *(be) cut* ▪ Her hair is light brown and *cut* in a short bob. ▪ She was wearing a dress that *was cut* low at the neck. [=she was wearing a low-*cut* dress] **b** : to give (something) a new shape by using a sharp tool ▪ a beautifully *cut* diamond
5 [+ *obj*] : to make or form (something) by cutting or removing material ▪ We all *cut* [=*carved*] our names on/into the tree. ▪ The stream *cuts* a path through the woods. ▪ builders *cutting* new roads in the forest — often + *out* ▪ At the center

of the table was a statue *cut out* of ice.

6 [+ *obj*] : to make the amount of (something) smaller : REDUCE ▪ Our benefits were recently *cut* at work. ▪ The drug has been shown to *cut* the risk of heart attack by half. ▪ In just three years, the mayor has *cut* the city's crime in half. ▪ The President has promised to *cut* government spending. ▪ *Cutting* taxes can have positive and negative effects on the economy. ▪ measures that are designed to *cut* costs = cost-*cutting* measures ▪ The company's expenses had been ***cut to the bone*** [=reduced to their lowest possible amount] — often + *off* ▪ This route can *cut* as much as five minutes *off* your driving time. ▪ The experience *cut* 20 years *off* (of) his life. [=shortened his life by 20 years] ▪ We've *cut* 20 percent *off* the regular retail price.

7 [+ *obj*] **a** : to make (a book, film, etc.) shorter by removing parts ▪ His article was *cut* [=*shortened*] by about 500 words. ▪ The movie had to be *cut* because it was too long. **b** : to remove (something) from a book, film, etc. ▪ The movie's director decided to *cut* [=*cut out*, *omit*] my part. — often + *from* ▪ The director *cut* the scene *from* the final version of the film. ▪ They decided to *cut* her report *from* the newscast. ▪ About 500 words were *cut from* his article.

8 [+ *obj*] : to remove (something) from a computer document in a way that allows you to move it to another part of the document or to another document ▪ After you select the text with your mouse, you can *cut* it and then paste it at the beginning of the paragraph. ▪ You can ***cut and paste*** the picture into your file. — see also CUT-AND-PASTE

9 [+ *obj*] : to remove (a plant or part of a plant) by cutting it ▪ It's illegal to *cut* [=*cut down*] trees in this forest. ▪ We'll start *cutting* and harvesting the wheat next week. ✧ A ***cut flower*** is a flower that has been cut off the plant that it grew on. ▪ He brought her a bouquet of *cut flowers*.

10 [+ *obj*] : to cause (something) to no longer be connected ▪ The enemy has *cut* [=*severed*] our supply lines. ▪ He wanted to *cut* all ties with his past and start a new life.

11 [+ *obj*] : to allow (someone or something) to be free, loose, etc., by cutting something that stops movement ▪ They were trapped inside the crushed car and had to be ***cut free***. = They had to be *cut* from the car. ▪ The boat was ***cut loose*** from the pier and allowed to drift away. — see also *cut loose* at ²LOOSE

12 [+ *obj*] : to remove (someone) from a team, organization, etc. ▪ I was on the team for two weeks before I got *cut*. — often + *from* ▪ The coach *cut* two players *from* the team. ▪ The band was *cut from* the show at the last minute.

13 : to divide (a pack of cards) into two piles [+ *obj*] You *cut* the deck and I'll deal. [*no obj*] You *cut* and I'll deal.

14 [+ *obj*] : to divide (an area of land) into two parts ▪ The river *cuts* the city in half. ▪ The mountain ridges are *cut* by deep valleys.

15 [*no obj*] : to move or go *across* or *through* something ▪ Let's take a shortcut and *cut across* this field. ▪ We *cut through* the park on our way home. ▪ The boundary line between the two countries *cuts* directly *through* the group's traditional homeland. — often used figuratively to describe something that is not limited in the usual way ▪ National security is an issue that *cuts across* party lines. [=an issue that is important to both political parties] ▪ Child abuse *cuts across* all economic and racial lines/boundaries. [=it occurs in all economic and racial groups] ▪ Her academic interests *cut across* [=involve or relate to] many disciplines.

16 [*no obj*] **a** : to move quickly ▪ a fast ship *cutting* through the waves **b** : to move suddenly in a different direction ▪ The driver *cut* across three lanes of traffic to get to his exit and nearly caused an accident. ▪ (*American football*) The runner *cut* to his left to avoid being tackled.

17 [*no obj*] : to move in front of other people in a line ▪ That guy *cut* to the head of the line. ▪ She *cut* in front of us. = She *cut* ahead of us. — often + *in* ▪ Our friends let us *cut in* in front of them. ▪ Celebrities are allowed to ***cut in line*** at popular restaurants. ▪ Hey, no *cutting* (*in line*)!

18 [+ *obj*] *chiefly US* : to not go to (school or a class) when you should go to it ▪ We used to *cut* [=*skip*] school together and hang out at the beach. ▪ She would take notes for me when I *cut* class.

19 [+ *obj*] *informal* : to record (a song, album, etc.) ▪ She's in the studio *cutting* a new track/song for her next album. ▪ Elvis Presley *cut* his first record in 1954.

20 [*no obj*] : to suddenly move from one image or scene to another in a movie, television program, etc. ▪ The movie *cuts* quickly from one scene to the next. ▪ The camera *cut* back to the actor's face. ▪ To explain the present situation, the film *cuts* back to the hero's childhood. — often + *away* ▪ They quickly *cut away* to the announcer when he appeared on stage.

21 [*no obj*] : to stop filming a scene in a movie or television show — usually used as a command ▪ "*Cut*!" yelled the director.

22 [+ *obj*] : to stop saying or doing (foolish or annoying things) — usually used in phrases like ***cut the nonsense*** and (less politely) ***cut the crap*** ▪ Let's *cut the nonsense* and get down to business. ▪ *Cut the crap*, Jen! I know you're lying.

23 [+ *obj*] : to stop (a motor) by moving a switch ▪ We *cut* the engine and drifted into shore. ▪ I parked and *cut* the ignition. — often + *off* ▪ The pilot *cut off* the engine after the plane had come to a stop.

24 [*no obj*] : to go to or deal with something in a very direct way — usually + *to* ▪ Her question *cut to* the heart of the issue. ▪ This research *cuts to* the very core of who we are as human beings. ▪ Let me *cut to* the real reason why I'm here.

25 : to cause painful feelings or emotions [*no obj*] His words *cut* deeply. ▪ The disappointment ***cut like a knife***. [+ *obj*] His harsh words *cut* me very deeply. ▪ She was ***cut to the quick*** [=she was very badly hurt] by their insults.

26 [+ *obj*] **a** *US* : to make (alcohol) less strong by adding water or another liquid ▪ They *cut* [=*diluted*] the wine with water. **b** : to make (a drug, such as heroin) less strong by mixing it with another substance ▪ The substance is used to *cut* cocaine.

27 [+ *obj*] : to cause (dirt, grease, etc.) to break apart and be removed ▪ soap that *cuts* grease and grime

cut a check *US* : to write a check and give it to someone ▪ The company *cut* him *a check* and he cashed it.

cut a dash see ²DASH

cut a deal : to make an agreement usually about business : to make a deal ▪ The band *cut a deal* with a recording company.

cut a figure ✧ If you ***cut a fine/dashing/heroic (etc.) figure***, you look very good and impressive. ▪ He *cut a fine figure* in his officer's uniform.

cut and run : to leave quickly in order to avoid danger or trouble ▪ You can't just *cut and run* when your friends are in trouble.

cut a rug *old-fashioned slang* : to dance in an energetic way ▪ He's not young anymore, but he can still *cut a rug* on the dance floor.

cut a tooth *of a baby* : to have a tooth begin to come through the gums ▪ Their baby daughter *cut* her first *tooth* yesterday.

cut away [*phrasal verb*] ***cut away (something) or cut (something) away*** : to remove (something that is not needed) by cutting ▪ They *cut away* [=*cut off*] a few of the tree's lower branches. — see also ¹CUT 20 (above), CUTAWAY

cut back [*phrasal verb*] **1** : to use less or do less of something ▪ We've been spending too much money and we need to *cut back* [=we need to spend less money] — often + *on* ▪ I've been trying to *cut back on* smoking. ▪ He's *cut back on* the time he spends in front of the TV. **2** ***cut (something) back or cut back (something)*** **a** : to make (a plant) smaller or shorter by cutting its branches ▪ *Cut back* [=*prune*] the shrub in the late fall. **b** : to reduce the size or amount of (something) ▪ We ran out of time and had to *cut back* our plans. ▪ They've *cut back* my hours at work. — see also CUTBACK

cut both ways : to have both good and bad results, effects, etc. ▪ He knows that his extreme competitiveness *cuts both ways*. ▪ These changes in the economy *cut both ways*.

cut corners see ¹CORNER

cut down [*phrasal verb*] **1** : to use less or do less of something ▪ I haven't been able to quit smoking completely, but at least I've *cut down*. [=*cut back*] — often + *on* ▪ I've had to *cut down on* [=*reduce*, *cut back on*] the amount of money I spend on clothes. ▪ She suggested he *cut down on* his drinking. ▪ a building material that helps *cut down on* noise **2** ***cut (something) down or cut down (something)*** **a** : to remove (a tree or bush) by cutting through its trunk or base ▪ Most of the tree was dead, so we had to *cut* it *down*. ▪ Much of the forest has been *cut down* for firewood. **b** : to reduce the size or amount of (something) ▪ We used a shortcut that *cut down* our traveling time by 15 minutes. ▪ The machine significantly *cuts down* the amount of work necessary to harvest crops. **3** ***cut (someone) down or cut down (someone)*** : to kill or wound (someone) ▪ She was *cut down* by a stray bullet. ▪ The composer Schubert was *cut down* in his prime by illness. [=he died because of ill-

ness when he was in his prime]

cut from the same cloth see CLOTH

cut ice see [1]ICE

cut in [*phrasal verb*] **1** : to join a conversation suddenly : INTERRUPT ▪ We were trying to have a conversation, but she kept *cutting in*. ▪ "What are you guys talking about?" he *cut in*. — often + *on* ▪ He's always *cutting in on* our conversations. **2** : to stop two people who are dancing and take the place of one of them ▪ He went up to the dancing couple and said, "May I *cut in*?" **3** *of a machine* : to begin to work ▪ Once the heater *cuts in* [=*kicks in*], it'll be a lot more comfortable in here. **4** ***cut (someone) in*** : to include (someone) in a group of people who are receiving money or other benefits ▪ They'll help you start your business provided that you *cut* them *in* when you start making a profit. — often + *on* ▪ They want you to *cut* them *in on* [=to give them some of] the profits. **5** ***cut (something) in or cut in (something)*** : to add (something, such as butter) to dry ingredients (such as flour) by making cutting motions with a knife or other sharp tool ▪ After sifting the flour into a mixing bowl, use two knives to *cut in* the butter. — see also [1]CUT 17 (above)

cut into [*phrasal verb*] ***cut into (something)*** : to reduce the amount of (something) ▪ Although it would *cut into* profits, we were forced to lower our prices. ▪ The extra time I was spending at work was *cutting into* my time with my family.

cut it *informal* **1** : to be able to do something well enough — usually used in negative statements ▪ After two weeks at the new job, he decided that he just couldn't *cut it*. [=that he couldn't do the job well enough to succeed] ▪ They didn't think that I would *cut it* as an actress. ▪ Everyone's using bold colors to decorate their homes. Plain white walls just don't *cut it* anymore. [=plain white walls are not acceptable anymore] **2** ✧ People use the informal phrase ***any way you cut it*** to say that something is true no matter how you look at it or think about it. ▪ *Any way you cut it*, it was a pretty good year for our company. ▪ She's one of the world's best tennis players *any way you cut it*.

cut it close (*chiefly US*) *or chiefly Brit* ***cut it fine*** : to almost not be able to do something : to almost fail, lose, etc. ▪ They ended up winning the game, but they really *cut it close* [=they almost lost the game] at the end ▪ It's *cutting it* a bit *fine* to get to the station at 9:45 when the train leaves at 9:50!

cut off [*phrasal verb*] **1** *of a machine* : to stop working suddenly : to turn off ▪ The engine suddenly *cut off*. [=*cut out*] ▪ The air-conditioning *cut off*, and the room was silent. **2** ***cut (something) off or cut off (something)*** **a** : to remove (something) by cutting ▪ *Cut off* dead flowers to promote new growth. ▪ I had very long hair, but I *cut* most of it *off* in college. ▪ He decided to *cut off* his beard. ▪ He was running around ***like a chicken with its head cut off***. [=he was acting in a very excited and confused way] **b** : to stop or end (something) ▪ They had a vote to *cut off* debate on the budget. ▪ The organization *cut off* its ties with the country's government. ▪ His family *cut off* all communication/contact with him after the incident. **c** : to stop people from seeing or using (something) : to block (something) ▪ Their fence *cuts off* our view of the ocean. ▪ Many of the town's roads were *cut off* when the river overflowed. ▪ The army *cut off* all escape routes. **d** : to stop the movement or supply of (something) ▪ The power was *cut off* to our apartment building. ▪ The earthquake *cut off* our water supply. ▪ They've decided to *cut off* funding/aid to the group. ▪ His main source of income had been *cut off*. **3** ***cut (someone or something) off or cut off (someone or something)*** : to cause (someone or something) to be separate or alone — often + *from* ▪ an island nation geographically *cut off from* the rest of the world ▪ They are *cut off from* (contact with) the outside world. ▪ She *cut* herself *off from* her family. ▪ He's emotionally *cut off from* his wife. **4** ***cut (someone) off or cut off (someone)*** **a** : to stop (someone) from talking ▪ I was in the middle of telling a story when she *cut* me *off* [=she interrupted me] to ask about dinner. ▪ He spoke for 12 minutes until his teacher finally *cut* him *off*. ✧ If you ***get cut off*** when you are using the telephone, the telephone connection suddenly ends and you can no longer hear the other person. ▪ I called him, but we *got cut off* [=we got disconnected; the telephone connection ended] two minutes into our conversation. **b** *US* : to drive in front of (someone in another vehicle) in a sudden and dangerous way ▪ He shouted at a driver who *cut* him *off*. ▪ Hey, that guy/car just *cut* me *off*! **c** : to move ahead and force (someone) to stop ▪ "Sheriff, they're getting away!" "Don't worry, we'll take a shortcut and *cut* them *off*." **d** : to decide not to give money or property to (someone) after your death ▪ In her will, she *cut off* her son without a cent/penny. ▪ She *cut* him *off* completely. **e** : to refuse to allow (someone) to drink more alcohol ▪ He's had too much to drink. We'd better *cut* him *off*. — see also [1]CUT 1d, 6 (above), CUTOFF

cut off your nose to spite your face see [1]NOSE

cut out [*phrasal verb*] **1** *of a machine* : to stop working suddenly ▪ The plane's engines suddenly *cut out*. [=*cut off*] **2** *chiefly US* : to leave quickly and suddenly ▪ We were in a hurry to get home, so we *cut out* before the performance ended. **3** *chiefly US* : to move out of a line of traffic ▪ The other car/driver *cut out* from behind and sped ahead of us. **4** ***cut (something) out or cut out (something)*** **a** : to form (something) by cutting with a sharp tool ▪ He got a piece of red paper and *cut out* a big heart. = He *cut* a big heart *out* of a piece of red paper. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ She *cut out* [=*carved out*] a place for herself in history. [=she caused herself to be important in history] — see also [1]CUT 5 (above), CUTOUT **b** : to remove (something) by cutting ▪ I *cut out* the recipe from a magazine. ▪ *cutting out* newspaper articles ▪ Doctors *cut out* the lump from her chest. **c** : to remove (something) from something ▪ Fortunately, they *cut* [=*took*] that scene *out* of the movie. ▪ He *cut out* sugar from his diet and began eating more fruits and vegetables. ▪ I focused on my work and *cut out* everything else in my life. **d** : to stop doing (something) ▪ I've cut down on the number of cigarettes I smoke, but I'd like to *cut out* [=*give up*] smoking altogether. ▪ I told you to ***cut that out***! [=I told you to stop that] ▪ That's enough, kids. I mean it! ***Cut it out***! **e** ✧ If your legs, feet, or knees are ***cut out from under you***, you are knocked down by something that hits your legs very hard. This phrase is often used figuratively. ▪ When I learned that I was seriously ill, I felt like my feet were *cut out from under me*. ▪ The financial legs had been *cut out from under* the program. [=the program lost money and could not do what it needed to do] **5** ***cut (someone) out or cut out (someone)*** : to cause (someone) to no longer be included in something ▪ She *cut* all of her children *out* of her will and left everything to her grandchildren. ▪ Don't *cut* me *out* of your life completely! ▪ We can save money by ***cutting out the middleman*** and ordering our supplies directly from the manufacturer. **6** ✧ If you are ***cut out for (something)*** or ***cut out to do/be (something)***, you are naturally able or suited to do or be something. ▪ Why do you think that you're *cut out for* this job? [=why would you be good at this job?] ▪ I'm really not *cut out for* this kind of work. [=I'm not naturally good at it] ▪ He's not *cut out to be* a teacher. = He's not *cut out to* teach. — see also *have your work cut out for you* at [2]WORK

cut short see [2]SHORT

cut (someone) dead : to pretend not to see (someone you know) : to deliberately ignore (someone) ▪ When I saw her on the street yesterday, she *cut* me *dead*.

cut (someone) some slack see [2]SLACK

cut the Gordian knot see GORDIAN KNOT

cut the mustard see MUSTARD

cut through [*phrasal verb*] ***cut through (something)*** : to get through or past (something that blocks you or slows you down) quickly and directly ▪ We were able to start the project once she told us how to *cut through* the red tape. ▪ It took some time to *cut through* the lies and get to the truth. ▪ *cutting through* all the nonsense — often + *to* ▪ *cutting through to* the heart/essence of the problem — see also [1]CUT 15 (above)

cut to the chase see [1]CHASE

cut up [*phrasal verb*] **1** *US, informal* : to behave in a silly or rude way ▪ I was sent to the principal's office for *cutting up* [=*clowning around*] in class. — see also CUTUP **2** ***cut (something) up or cut up (something)*** : to cut (something) into parts or pieces ▪ He *cut up* the candy into little pieces and gave it to the child. — often + *into* ▪ The area was *cut up* [=*divided*] *into* three separate farms. ▪ They *cut up* the wood *into* small pieces. ▪ We made sandwiches and *cut* them *up into* triangles. **3** ***cut (someone or something) up or cut up (someone or something)*** **a** : to hurt or damage (someone or something) by cutting ▪ He got *cut up* pretty badly in the fight. ▪ His face and arms were all *cut up*. **b** *informal* : to criticize (someone or something) in a harsh way ▪ The critics really *cut up* his last play. **c** ✧ In informal British English, to be ***cut up about*** something is to be very sad or upset about something. ▪ I was pretty *cut up*

about the way the critics treated my last play. • She's really *cut up about* losing her job.

cut up rough *Brit, informal* : to behave in an angry or violent way • He got drunk and started to *cut up rough*.

cut your losses see LOSS

cut your own throat see THROAT

cut your teeth — used to describe the things that people do when they are starting their careers • He *cut his teeth* performing at local bars and nightclubs. • She *cut her* political *teeth* [=she began her political career] as a volunteer during the 1992 presidential elections. — often + *on* • Many television and movie stars *cut their teeth on* soap operas.

fish or cut bait see [2]FISH

[2]cut *noun, pl* **cuts** [*count*]

1 a : an opening or hole made with a sharp tool (such as a knife) • Make a few small *cuts* in the crust to let the air escape. • a two-inch *cut* in the cloth **b** : a wound on a person's body that is made by something sharp • She had a small *cut* [=*gash*] above her left eye. • He came home covered in *cuts* and bruises. • a deep/superficial *cut*

2 : an act of making something smaller in amount : REDUCTION • Further *cuts* in spending are needed. • He had to accept a *cut* in pay. = He had to accept a ***pay cut***. • a ***tax cut***

3 : the act of removing something from a book, movie, etc. • You'll have to make a few *cuts* in your manuscript if you want us to publish it.

4 : a version of a movie at a particular stage of being edited • Fortunately, that scene didn't make the film's final *cut*. [=that scene did not appear in the final version of the film] • I saw a ***rough cut*** [=a version that is not yet finished] of the movie. • a ***director's cut*** [=a special version of a movie that is created by the director and that usually includes scenes that are not included in other versions]

5 : a song on a record, tape, or CD • We listened to the same *cut* [=*track*] over and over.

6 : the shape and style of a piece of clothing • the *cut* of his pants

7 : the act or result of cutting someone's hair : HAIRCUT • I had a shampoo and a *cut*. — see also BUZZ CUT, CREW CUT

8 : a piece of meat that is cut from a particular part of an animal's body • a thick/tender/expensive *cut* of meat

9 : a part of something that is divided and shared among people — usually singular • We each got a *cut* [=*share*] of the profits. — see also *a cut of the action* at ACTION

10 : the act of reducing the size of a group (such as a group of competitors) by removing the ones that are not good enough or that have not done well enough — usually used with *make* or *miss* • He has to birdie the last hole in order to ***make the cut***. [=in order to have a score that is low enough to be among the players allowed to continue playing] • If he doesn't birdie this hole, he'll ***miss the cut***. • Only the best players are good enough to *make the cut* when the team is being chosen.

a cut above : better than other people or things • All of his books are good, but this one is *a cut above* (the rest). • She's *a cut above* the other competitors and should win easily.

cut and thrust *chiefly Brit* : the lively and exciting quality of an activity in which people compete or argue with each other • He has always enjoyed the *cut and thrust* of politics.

cut–and–dried /ˌkʌtn̩ˈdraɪd/ *also US* **cut–and–dry** /ˌkʌtn̩ˈdraɪ/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : having a clear and definite quality that does not allow doubt or that cannot be changed • The situation wasn't as *cut-and-dried* as we had thought. • a *cut-and-dried* example • a *cut-and-dried* decision

cut–and–paste /ˌkʌtn̩ˈpeɪst/ *adj, always used before a noun* : made up of parts taken from many different sources • The book was an unprofessional *cut-and-paste* job.

cut•away /ˈkʌtəˌweɪ/ *adj* : having the top or outside removed so the inside parts can be seen • The diagram shows a *cutaway* view of an engine. — see also *cut away* at [1]CUT

– **cutaway** *noun, pl* **-aways** [*count*]

cut•back /ˈkʌtˌbæk/ *noun, pl* **-backs** [*count*] : the act of reducing the number or amount of something : REDUCTION — often + *in* • He is opposed to further *cutbacks* [=*cuts*] *in* military spending. — see also *cut back* at [1]CUT

cute /ˈkjuːt/ *adj* **cut•er**; **cut•est**

1 : having a pleasing and usually youthful appearance • What a *cute* [=*adorable*] little baby! • a *cute* [=*pretty*] pink dress • *cute* puppies • She's ***as cute as a button***! [=she's very cute]

2 *chiefly US, informal* : attractive in a sexual way • Who's that *cute* [=*hot, sexy*] guy/girl you were with?

3 *chiefly US, informal* **a** : clever in an appealing way • a *cute* idea **b** : clever in a way that annoys people • Don't get *cute* [=*smart, fresh*] with me!

4 *chiefly US, informal* : trying too hard to be pleasant or likable • The movie's too *cute* [=*cutesy*] to be taken seriously.

– **cute•ly** *adv* • She was dressed *cutely* in a little pink outfit.

– **cute•ness** *noun* [*noncount*] • their annoying *cuteness*

cute•sy /ˈkjuːtsi/ *adj* **cute•si•er**; **-est** [*also more ~; most ~*] *informal + disapproving* : trying very hard or too hard to be appealing : too cute in an annoying way • *cutesy* cartoon characters • *cutesy* pop music

cut glass *noun* [*noncount*] : glass with patterns cut into its surface for decoration — often used before another noun • a *cut-glass* vase

cu•ti•cle /ˈkjuːtɪkəl/ *noun, pl* **-ti•cles** [*count*] : the layer of dead or hard skin around the base of a fingernail or toenail

cut•ie /ˈkjuːti/ *noun, pl* **-ies** [*count*] *informal* : an attractive person : a cute person • Her boyfriend's a real *cutie*.

cut•ie–pie /ˈkjuːtiˌpaɪ/ *noun, pl* **-pies** [*count*] *US, informal* : an attractive person : CUTIE — often used as an informal way of addressing a lover, a small child, etc. • Hey there, *cutie-pie*. [=*honey, sweetie*]

cut•lass /ˈkʌtləs/ *noun, pl* **-lass•es** [*count*] : a short, heavy sword with a curved blade that was used by sailors and pirates in the past

cut•lery /ˈkʌtləri/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 *US* : sharp tools made of metal (such as knives and scissors) that are used for cutting things

2 : forks, spoons, and knives used for serving and eating food : SILVERWARE • plastic *cutlery*

cut•let /ˈkʌtlət/ *noun, pl* **-lets** [*count*] : a small, thin slice of meat • veal/chicken *cutlets*

2 *chiefly Brit* : chopped vegetables, nuts, etc., that are pressed together into a flat shape, covered with bread crumbs, and fried in oil • a nut *cutlet* • vegetable *cutlets*

cut•off /ˈkʌtˌɑːf/ *noun, pl* **-offs**

1 [*count*] : the act of stopping the movement or supply of something • a *cutoff* of the water supply

2 [*count*] : the time when something must be done or completed • The *cutoff* for new applications is next Wednesday.

3 ***cutoffs*** [*plural*] : short pants that are made from long pants by cutting off the legs at the knees or higher • a pair of *cutoffs*

– see also *cut off* at [1]CUT

– **cutoff** *adj, always used before a noun* • We are approaching the *cutoff* point of the negotiations but no agreement has been reached. • The *cutoff* date for new applications is next Wednesday. • She was wearing *cutoff* jeans/pants.

cut•out /ˈkʌtˌaʊt/ *noun, pl* **-outs** [*count*] : a shape or picture that is cut from a piece of paper, cardboard, etc. • a cardboard *cutout* of a famous actor — see also *cut out* at [1]CUT

cut–price /ˈkʌtˈpraɪs/ *adj, chiefly Brit* : CUT-RATE • a *cut-price* ticket

cut–rate /ˈkʌtˈreɪt/ *adj, chiefly US*

1 : selling goods or services at very low prices • *cut-rate* supermarkets • *cut-rate* airlines and hotels

2 *of a price* : very low • They sell wine at *cut-rate* prices.

cut•ter /ˈkʌtɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ters** [*count*]

1 : a person, machine, or tool that cuts something • a diamond *cutter* • a pizza *cutter* — sometimes plural • a pair of wire *cutters* — see also BOX CUTTER, COOKIE CUTTER

2 a : a boat on a ship that is used for carrying supplies or passengers to and from the shore **b** : a small sailing boat with one mast **c** : a small military ship • a Coast Guard *cutter*

cut•throat /ˈkʌtˌθroʊt/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] — used to describe a situation in which people compete with each other in an unpleasant and often cruel and unfair way • *cutthroat* [=*ruthless*] competition • It's a *cutthroat* business we're in.

cut–throat razor *noun, pl* **~ -zors** [*count*] *Brit* : STRAIGHT RAZOR

[1]cut•ting /ˈkʌtɪŋ/ *noun, pl* **-tings** [*count*]

1 : a stem, leaf, or root that is cut from a plant and used to grow a new plant • Take some *cuttings* from the plant and put them in water.

2 *Brit* : CLIPPING 1 • She kept a collection of (press) *cuttings* about the war.

[2]cutting *adj* [*more ~; most ~*]

1 *always used before a noun* : used for cutting things • a *cutting* blade

2 a : unpleasantly cold ▪ a raw *cutting* [=*biting*] wind **b** : causing great physical pain ▪ a sharp, *cutting* [=*piercing, stabbing*] pain

3 : very harsh and critical : intended to hurt someone's feelings ▪ He made a *cutting* remark about my family, and I haven't spoken to him since.

cutting board *noun, pl* ~ **boards** [*count*] *US* : a wooden or plastic board on which foods (such as meats and vegetables) are cut — called also (*chiefly Brit*) *chopping board*; see picture at KITCHEN; compare CHOPPING BLOCK

cutting edge *noun, pl* ~ **edges**

1 [*count*] : the sharp edge of something that is used to cut things ▪ the *cutting edge* of a knife

2 *the cutting edge* : the newest and most advanced area of activity in an art, science, etc. ▪ He's a director who tries to keep his films right on *the cutting edge*. — often + *of* ▪ The research we're doing now is ***at/on the cutting edge of*** medical technology. ▪ *the cutting edge of* youth culture

– **cutting–edge** *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ *cutting-edge* technology

cutting room *noun, pl* ~ **rooms** [*count*] : a room where movies or television shows are edited and put into their final form — usually singular ▪ He worked in the *cutting room*.

on the cutting-room floor : removed from a movie or television show ▪ The scene ended up *on the cutting-room floor*. [=the scene ended up being removed] — often used figuratively ▪ A lot of good ideas are rejected and end up *on the cutting-room floor*. [=end up not being used]

cut•up /ˈkʌtˌʌp/ *noun, pl* **-ups** [*count*] *US, informal* : a person who behaves in a silly way and tries to make other people laugh ▪ In school he was always a/the *cutup*, telling jokes and acting silly. — see also *cut up* at ¹CUT

CV *noun, pl* **CVs** [*count*] : CURRICULUM VITAE

cwt *abbr* hundredweight

-cy /si/ *noun suffix*

1 : the state of having a particular quality ▪ bankrupt*cy* ▪ normal*cy* ▪ accura*cy*

2 : the action or practice of a particular type of person ▪ candida*cy* ▪ pira*cy* ▪ prophe*cy*

3 : the state of having a particular role or rank ▪ occupan*cy* ▪ captain*cy*

cy•an /ˈsaɪˌæn/ *noun* [*noncount*] *technical* : a greenish-blue color — see color picture on page C2

cy•a•nide /ˈsajəˌnaɪd/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a very poisonous chemical

cyber- /ˈsaɪbə/ *combining form* : computer ▪ *cyber*café ▪ *cyber*space

cy•ber•ca•fé /ˈsaɪbəkæˈfeɪ, *Brit* ˈsaɪbəˈkæˌfeɪ/ *noun, pl* **-fés** [*count*] : a café or coffee shop where customers can use computers to search the Internet

cy•ber•net•ics /ˌsaɪbəˈnɛtɪks/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the scientific study of how people, animals, and machines control and communicate information

– **cy•ber•net•ic** /ˌsaɪbəˈnɛtɪk/ *adj* ▪ *cybernetic* theory

cy•ber•punk /ˈsaɪbəˌpʌŋk/ *noun* [*noncount*] : stories about future societies that are controlled by computer technology — often used before another noun ▪ *cyberpunk* novels/authors

cy•ber•sex /ˈsaɪbəˌsɛks/ *noun* [*noncount*] : activity in which people become sexually excited by sending messages about sex to each other over the Internet

cy•ber•space /ˈsaɪbəˌspeɪs/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the online world of computer networks and the Internet ▪ We send e-mails through *cyberspace*.

cy•borg /ˈsaɪˌboəg/ *noun, pl* **-borgs** [*count*] *in stories* : a person whose body contains mechanical or electrical devices and whose abilities are greater than the abilities of normal humans

cy•cla•men /ˈsaɪkləmən, *Brit* ˈsɪkləmən/ *noun, pl* **cyclamen** *or* **cyclamens** [*count*] : a plant that has flowers with large white, pink, or red petals that hang downward

¹cy•cle /ˈsaɪkəl/ *noun, pl* **cycles** [*count*]

1 : a set of events or actions that happen again and again in the same order : a repeating series of events or actions ▪ the female menstrual *cycle* ▪ These plants have a 2-year ***growth cycle*** [=the plants live and die within two years] — often + *of* ▪ the annual *cycle of* the seasons ▪ the *cycle of* life and death ▪ World leaders must do more to stop/break this *cycle of* violence. — see also LIFE CYCLE

2 : a set of regular and repeated actions that are done by a machine as part of a longer process ▪ We have to wait for the dishwasher's wash and dry *cycles* to end. ▪ the spin *cycle* on a washing machine

3 *chiefly Brit* : a bicycle or motorcycle ▪ He rode his *cycle* into town. — often used before another noun ▪ a *cycle* lane/path/route

4 : a group of poems, plays, songs, etc., that relate to the same subject and that together form a larger work ▪ a *cycle* of 15 poems ▪ a song *cycle*

²cycle *verb* **cycles**; **cy•cled**; **cy•cling**

1 *US* : to go through a repeated process or to cause (something) to go through a repeated process [+ *obj*] The water is *cycled* back into/through the system after it has been used. [*no obj*] The water *cycles* back into/through the system.

2 [*no obj*] : to ride a bicycle ▪ He *cycled* [=*biked, bicycled*] across town to the library.

– **cy•clist** /ˈsaɪkələst/ *noun, pl* **-clists** [*count*] ▪ a group of *cyclists* [=*bicyclists*]

cy•clic /ˈsaɪklɪk, ˈsɪklɪk/ *or* **cy•cli•cal** /ˈsaɪklɪkəl, ˈsɪklɪkəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : happening again and again in the same order : happening in cycles ▪ *cyclic* changes in the weather ▪ the *cyclical* nature of history

– **cy•cli•cal•ly** /ˈsaɪklɪkli, ˈsɪklɪkli/ *adv* ▪ These events occur *cyclically*.

cycling *noun* [*noncount*] : the sport or activity of riding a bicycle ▪ My doctor recommends aerobic activities such as running, *cycling*, [=*biking, bicycling*] and swimming. ▪ He does a lot of *cycling*. ▪ *cycling* shorts ▪ The town is within easy *cycling* distance.

cy•clone /ˈsaɪˌkloʊn/ *noun, pl* **-clones** [*count*]

1 : an extremely large, powerful, and destructive storm with very high winds that turn around an area of low pressure — compare ANTICYCLONE

2 *chiefly US* : TORNADO

– **cy•clon•ic** /saɪˈklɑːnɪk/ *adj* ▪ *cyclonic* winds

Cy•clops /ˈsaɪˌklɑːps/ *noun* [*singular*] : a giant man in stories told by the ancient Greeks who had a single eye in the middle of his forehead

cyg•net /ˈsɪgnət/ *noun, pl* **-nets** [*count*] : a young swan

cyl•in•der /ˈsɪləndə/ *noun, pl* **-ders** [*count*]

1 : a shape that has straight sides and two circular ends — see picture at GEOMETRY

2 : something that is shaped like a cylinder: such as **a** : a tube in which a piston of an engine moves ▪ a four-*cylinder* engine — see picture at ENGINE **b** : the part of a gun that turns and that holds the bullets ▪ the *cylinder* of a revolver

on all cylinders *informal* : with the greatest possible amount of effort, power, or speed : at full capacity or speed ▪ The economy is ***running on all cylinders*** ▪ The team didn't seem to be ***firing/hitting on all cylinders***

cy•lin•dri•cal /səˈlɪndrɪkəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : shaped like a cylinder ▪ a *cylindrical* oil tank ▪ a *cylindrical* tower

cym•bal /ˈsɪmbəl/ *noun, pl* **-bals** [*count*] : a musical instrument in the form of a slightly curved thin metal plate that is played by hitting it with a drumstick or with another cymbal and that makes a very loud metallic sound — see picture at PERCUSSION

cyn•ic /ˈsɪnɪk/ *noun, pl* **-ics** [*count*] : a person who has negative opinions about other people and about the things people do ▪ He's too much of a *cynic* to see the benefits of marriage.; *especially* : a person who believes that people are selfish and are only interested in helping themselves ▪ A *cynic* might think that the governor visited the hospital just to gain votes. ▪ Reporters who cover politics often become *cynics*.

cyn•i•cal /ˈsɪnɪkəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : believing that people are generally selfish and dishonest ▪ *Cynical* people say there is no such thing as true love. ▪ People are so *cynical* nowadays. ▪ She's become more *cynical* in her old age. — often + *about* ▪ He's *cynical about* marriage. ▪ Many young people today are *cynical about* politics.

2 : selfish and dishonest in a way that shows no concern about treating other people fairly ▪ Some people regard the governor's visit to the hospital as a *cynical* attempt to win votes. ▪ We live in a cruel, *cynical* [=*uncaring*] world.

– **cyn•i•cal•ly** /ˈsɪnɪkli/ *adv* ▪ The character talks *cynically* about love.

cyn•i•cism /ˈsɪnəˌsɪzəm/ *noun* [*noncount*] : cynical beliefs : beliefs that people are generally selfish and dishonest ▪ Nothing could change her *cynicism* about politics.

cy•no•sure /ˈsaɪnəˌʃuə/ *noun, pl* **-sures** [*count*] *formal* : a person or thing that attracts a lot of attention or interest ▪ She was the ***cynosure of all eyes*** [=everyone was looking at

her] as she walked into the room.

cypher *chiefly Brit spelling of* CIPHER

cy•press /'saɪprəs/ *noun, pl* **-press•es** [*count, noncount*] : a tall and narrow evergreen tree

cyst /'sɪst/ *noun, pl* **cysts** [*count*] *medical* : a growth filled with liquid that forms in or on your body • an ovarian *cyst* [=a cyst on a woman's ovary]

cys•tic fi•bro•sis /'sɪstɪkfaɪ'broʊsəs/ *noun* [*noncount*] *medical* : a very serious disease that usually appears in young children and that makes it hard to breathe and to digest food properly

cys•ti•tis /sɪ'staɪtəs/ *noun* [*noncount*] *medical* : infection of the bladder

cy•tol•o•gy /saɪ'tɑ:lədʒi/ *noun* [*noncount*] *biology* : the study of plant and animal cells
– **cy•tol•o•gist** /saɪ'tɑ:lədʒɪst/ *noun, pl* **-gists** [*count*]

czar *also* **tsar** *or* **tzar** /'zɑə/ *noun, pl* **czars** *also* **tsars** *or* **tzars** [*count*]
1 : the title of the ruler of Russia before 1917 • Russia's *Czar* Nicholas II
2 *chiefly US* **a** : a very powerful person in a particular business or activity • a banking *czar* **b** — used as an unofficial title for the person who is in charge of a government office or department • The President has appointed a new drug *czar*. • the education/housing/terrorism *czar*

cza•ri•na *also* **tsa•ri•na** *or* **tza•ri•na** /zɑ'ri:nə/ *noun, pl* **-nas** [*count*] : the wife of a Russian czar

czar•ist *also* **tsar•ist** *or* **tzar•ist** /'zɑrɪst/ *adj* : of or relating to the government of Russia when it was controlled by czars • *czarist* Russia • the *czarist* capital of St. Petersburg

Czech /'ʧɛk/ *noun, pl* **Czechs**
1 [*count*] : a person born, raised, or living in Czechoslovakia or the Czech Republic • the customs of the *Czechs*
2 [*noncount*] : the Slavic language of the Czechs • He learned to speak *Czech*.
– **Czech** *adj* • the *Czech* people/language

D

d *or* **D** /'di:/ *noun, pl* **d's** *or* **ds** *or* **D's** *or* **Ds**
1 : the fourth letter of the English alphabet [*count*] Many people who are learning to read confuse b's and *d's*. [*noncount*] names that start with *d*
2 : a musical note or key referred to by the letter D : the second tone of a C-major scale [*count*] play/sing a *D* [*noncount*] The song is in the key of *D*.
3 [*count*] : a grade that is given to a student for doing poor work • She got a *D* on her chemistry test.
4 : the Roman numeral that means 500 • CD [=400]

d. *abbr* died • Thomas Jefferson, *d.* 1826

D *abbr* Democrat

'd /əd *after* t *or* d; d *elsewhere*/ — used as a contraction of *had, would*, and *did* • When they arrived, we'*d* [=we had] already left. • If you'*d* [=you would] like to learn more, go to our Web site. • Where'*d* [=where did] he go?

DA *abbr* district attorney

[1]dab /'dæb/ *verb* **dabs**; **dabbed**; **dab•bing**
1 : to lightly touch (something) usually with quick, small motions [+ *obj*] She *dabbed* [=*patted*] her eyes with a handkerchief. [*no obj*] — usually + *at* • He politely *dabbed at* the corners of his mouth with his napkin.
2 [+ *obj*] : to put something on something with quick, small motions • He *dabbed* [=*daubed*] a little paint on the canvas. • She was *dabbing* [=*daubing*] her lips with dark red lipstick.

[2]dab *noun, pl* **dabs** [*count*]
1 : a quick, small touch • She gave her eyes a few *dabs* [=*pats*] with a handkerchief.
2 : a small amount of something • a *dab* of paint • You've got a *dab* of ice cream on your shirt. • a *dab* of butter/perfume
— see also DAB HAND, SMACK-DAB

dab•ble /'dæbəl/ *verb* **dab•bles**; **dab•bled**; **dab•bling**
1 [*no obj*] : to take part in an activity in a way that is not serious — usually + *in* • She works as an accountant but *dabbles in* poetry. • He *dabbled in* politics as a college student.
2 : to play or move around in water [*no obj*] The ducks *dabbled* in the stream. [+ *obj*] She sat by the pool, *dabbling* her feet in the cool water.
– **dab•bler** *noun, pl* **-blers** [*count*] • a *dabbler* in politics

dab hand *noun, pl* ~ **hands** [*count*] *Brit, informal* : a person who is very good at doing something : EXPERT • He's a *dab hand* at cooking. • She's a *dab hand* in the kitchen. • She's always been a *dab hand* with a paint brush.

da•cha /'dɑ:ʧə/ *noun, pl* **-chas** [*count*] : a small Russian house in the countryside that is used especially in the summer

dachs•hund /'dɑ:ks,hʊnt, *Brit* 'dæksənd/ *noun, pl* **-hunds** [*count*] : a small type of dog that has a long body, very short legs, and long ears — see picture at DOG

Da•cron /'deɪ,krɑ:n, 'dæ,krɑ:n/ *trademark* — used for a type of cloth or thread that is made from an artificial material

dad /'dæd/ *noun, pl* **dads** [*count*] *informal* : a person's father • Her mom and *dad* both said she can't go.— often used as a form of address • *Dad*, can I borrow the car tonight?

dad•dy /'dædi/ *noun, pl* **-dies** [*count*] *informal* : a person's father — used especially by young children • Where's my *daddy*?— often used as a form of address • *Daddy*, can you read me a story?— see also SUGAR DADDY

dad•dy long•legs /,dædi'lɑ:ŋ,lɛgz/ *noun, pl* ~ **-legs** [*count*]
1 *US* : a small insect that looks like a spider and that has a small round body and long thin legs — see color picture on page C10
2 *Brit* : CRANE FLY

dae•mon /'di:mən/ *noun, pl* **-mons** [*count*]
1 : a creature in ancient Greek stories that is more powerful than a person but not as powerful as a god
2 : DEMON 1 • angels and *daemons*

daf•fo•dil /'dæfə,dɪl/ *noun, pl* **-dils** [*count*] : a yellow flower that blooms in the spring and that has a center that is shaped like a long tube — see color picture on page C6

daf•fy /'dæfi/ *adj* **daf•fi•er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~] *US, informal* : silly or strange often in a way that is funny • The actress is starring in a *daffy* new comedy this summer. • The book is filled with *daffy* characters.

daft /'dæft, *Brit* 'dɑ:ft/ *adj* **daft•er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~] *Brit, informal*
1 : strange often in a way that is funny • He's got a *daft* [=*silly, daffy*] sense of humor.
2 : crazy or foolish • Don't be *daft*! • Your idea seems a bit *daft* to me. • She looked at us as if we'd gone *daft*.
(as) daft as a brush : very silly or somewhat crazy • The professor is perfectly nice but she's *daft as a brush*.
– **daft•ly** *adv* – **daft•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

dag•ger /'dægɚ/ *noun, pl* **-gers** [*count*] : a sharp pointed knife that is used as a weapon
at daggers drawn *chiefly Brit* : angry and ready to fight • political parties that are *at daggers drawn* (with each other)
look/shoot/stare daggers at : to look at (someone) in an angry way • They *looked daggers at* each other across the table.— see also CLOAK-AND-DAGGER

da•go *or* **Da•go** /'deɪgoʊ/ *noun, pl* **-gos** [*count*] *informal* + *offensive* : a person who is from Italy, Spain, or Portugal ✧ The word *dago* is very offensive and should be avoided.

da•guerre•o•type /də'gerou,taɪp/ *noun, pl* **-types** [*count*] : an old type of photograph that was made on a piece of silver or a piece of copper covered in silver

dahl•ia /'dæljə, *Brit* 'deɪljə/ *noun, pl* **-ias** [*count*] : a type of plant that is grown in gardens and has large flowers with white, yellow, red, pink, or purple petals

[1]dai•ly /'deɪli/ *adj, always used before a noun*
1 : happening, done, made, used, or existing every day • Television has become a part of our *daily* [=*day-to-day*] lives. • It has changed every aspect of *daily* life/existence. • I started eating healthier and added exercise to my *daily* routine/

schedule. ▪ *daily* activities such as eating breakfast and washing your face ▪ There's not enough water to meet the *daily* needs of the city's people. ▪ *daily* commuters ▪ He visits them ***on a daily basis*** [=every day] ▪ people working to earn their ***daily bread*** [=the food they need each day]

2 : published every day or every day except Sunday ▪ *daily* newspapers ▪ She reads the *daily* paper each morning.

3 : of or relating to one day ▪ Their average *daily* wage is only five dollars. ▪ She had been taking more than the recommended *daily* dose of the medicine. ▪ Our *daily* lunch specials [=the special lunch items offered on particular days of the week] are listed on the back of the menu.

– **daily** *adv* ▪ Take one pill/capsule twice *daily*. [=two times every day] ▪ The Web site is updated *daily*. [=every day]

[2]daily *noun, pl* **dai·lies**

1 [*count*] : a newspaper that is published every day or every day except Sunday ▪ the city's two largest *dailies*

2 *dailies* [*plural*] *US* : the first prints of a movie showing the scenes that are filmed each day ▪ The director watches the *dailies* [=*rushes*] every evening.

3 [*count*] *Brit, old-fashioned* : a person who you pay to clean your house and do other jobs for you every day — called also *daily help*

dain·ty /'deɪnti/ *adj* **dain·ti·er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : small and pretty ▪ Her hair was decorated with *dainty* pink flowers. ▪ the girl's *dainty* little hands ▪ *dainty* teacups

2 : done with small and careful movements ▪ The dancers' *dainty* steps were followed by a series of leaps. ▪ She took a *dainty* sip of tea from her teacup.

3 *of food* : attractive and served in small amounts ▪ They served *dainty* sandwiches on silver trays. ▪ The food was served in *dainty* portions.

– **dain·ti·ly** *adv* ▪ She sipped *daintily* from her teacup. – **dain·ti·ness** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ He commented on the *daintiness* of my hands.

dai·qui·ri /'dækəri, 'daɪkəri/ *noun, pl* **-ris** [*count*] : an alcoholic drink that is usually made of rum, crushed fruit or fruit juice, and sugar ▪ frozen strawberry *daiquiris*

[1]dairy /'deri/ *noun, pl* **dair·ies** [*count*]

1 : a farm that produces milk

2 : a place where milk is kept and butter or cheese is made

3 : a company that sells milk and foods made from milk (such as butter and cheese)

[2]dairy *adj, always used before a noun*

1 : made from milk ▪ *dairy* products/foods such as cheese and ice cream : relating to foods made from milk ▪ You'll find yogurt in the *dairy* section of the grocery store.

2 : of or relating to a type of farming that deals with the production of milk and foods made from milk ▪ *dairy* farms/farmers ▪ *dairy* cows/cattle [=cows that are raised to produce milk] ▪ the *dairy* industry

dairy·ing /'derijɪŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the business of managing a farm or company that produces or sells milk and foods made from milk

dairy·maid /'deri,meɪd/ *noun, pl* **-maids** [*count*] *old-fashioned* : a woman who works in a dairy

dairy·man /'derimən/ *noun, pl* **-men** /-mən/ [*count*] : a man who manages or works in a dairy

da·is /'dejəs/ *noun, pl* **-is·es** [*count*] : a raised platform in a large room or hall that people stand on when performing or speaking to an audience

dai·sy /'deɪzi/ *noun, pl* **-sies** [*count*] : a type of white flower that has a yellow center

be pushing up daisies *informal + humorous* : to be dead ▪ We'll all *be pushing up daisies* by the time the government balances the budget.

daisy chain *noun, pl* ~ **chains** [*count*]

1 : a string of daisies that you make by tying the stems together ▪ She wore a *daisy chain* around her neck.

2 : a group of things or people that are connected in a series ▪ a *daisy chain* of electronic devices ▪ The children linked arms forming a *daisy chain*.

Da·lai La·ma /ˌdɑːlaɪ'lɑːmə, *Brit* ˌdælaɪ'lɑːmə/ *noun, pl* ~ **-mas** [*count*] : the spiritual leader of Tibetan Buddhism

dale /'deɪl/ *noun, pl* **dales** [*count*] *old-fashioned* : VALLEY ▪ the beautiful hills and *dales* of our county

dal·li·ance /'dælijəns/ *noun, pl* **-anc·es** [*count*]

1 : an action that is not serious — often + *with* ▪ After a brief *dalliance with* acting, she pursued a law career.

2 *literary* : a romantic or sexual relationship that is brief and not serious ▪ He had *dalliances* [=(more commonly) *affairs*, (less formally) *flings*] with several women before he met his wife. ▪ sexual *dalliances*

dal·ly /'dæli/ *verb* **dal·lies**; **dal·lied**; **dal·ly·ing** [*no obj*] : to do something slowly or too slowly ▪ Don't *dally* [=*dawdle*] on the way home. ▪ Please don't *dally*. We need you here right away. ▪ The two of us *dallied* over our coffee that morning. — see also DILLYDALLY

dally with [*phrasal verb*] **1 *dally with (something)*** : to do or think about (something) in a way that is not serious ▪ He's been *dallying* [=*toying*] *with* the idea of running for office.

2 *dally with (someone)* *old-fashioned* : to have a casual romantic or sexual relationship with (someone) ▪ a married man who has been *dallying with* another woman

dal·ma·tian *or* **Dal·ma·tian** /dæl'meɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tians** [*count*] : a type of dog that has short white fur with many black or brown spots

[1]dam /'dæm/ *noun, pl* **dams** [*count*] : a structure that is built across a river or stream to stop water from flowing ▪ The government has plans to build a *dam* and flood the valley. ▪ There's a ***beaver dam*** [=a dam built by beavers] in the stream behind my house. — compare [3]DAM

[2]dam *verb* **dams**; **dammed**; **dam·ming** [+ *obj*] : to build a dam across (a river or stream) ▪ Beavers *dammed* the stream. — often + *up* ▪ They created a reservoir by *damming up* the river.

[3]dam *noun, pl* **dams** [*count*] *technical* : the female parent of some animals (such as horses) ▪ the foal's *dam* — compare [1]SIRE — compare [1]DAM

[1]dam·age /'dæmɪʤ/ *noun, pl* **dam·ag·es**

1 [*noncount*] : physical harm that is done to something or to someone's body ▪ The items were carefully wrapped to protect them from *damage* during shipping. ▪ The city sustained heavy *damage* during the war. ▪ water/sun/frost *damage* = *damage* caused by water/sun/frost ▪ Fortunately the boat suffered no serious *damage* in the storm. ▪ The fall caused/did considerable/extensive/severe *damage* to her knee. ▪ The disease is known to cause permanent/irreversible brain/liver/kidney *damage*. ▪ Few people were hurt during the storm, but ***property damage*** was great. [=many houses, cars, etc., were damaged or ruined] — see also COLLATERAL DAMAGE

2 [*noncount*] : emotional harm that is done to someone ▪ Traumatic events can cause serious psychological *damage*. [=can make someone mentally or emotionally unhealthy]

3 [*noncount*] : problems that are caused by a mistake, wrong action, etc. : bad or harmful effects on a situation, a person's reputation, etc. ▪ The scandal caused significant *damage* to her career. ▪ You've said enough. Please leave before you do any more *damage*. ▪ He tried to repair the *damage* by apologizing, but it was too late. ▪ He apologized, but the *damage* was already done.

4 *damages* [*plural*] *law* : an amount of money that a court requires you to pay to someone you have treated unfairly or hurt in some way ▪ The judge awarded her $5,000 ***in damages*** [=the judge said that the people who hurt her must pay her $5,000] — sometimes used in the form ***damage*** before another noun ▪ She won a $5,000 *damage* award.

5 *the damage* *informal* : the amount of money that something costs ▪ "***What's the damage?***" he asked the mechanic.

damage control *or Brit* ***damage limitation*** : things that are done or said to prevent a bad situation from becoming worse or to limit the bad effect of something ▪ The governor keeps making outrageous statements, forcing his staff to spend most of their time doing *damage control*.

[2]damage *verb* **damages**; **dam·aged**; **dam·ag·ing** [+ *obj*] : to cause damage to (something): such as **a** : to physically harm (something) ▪ Please return any items that are *damaged* during shipping. ▪ Many homes were *damaged* or completely destroyed in the fire. ▪ The fall severely *damaged* her knee. • Smoking can seriously *damage* your lungs. ▪ badly *damaged* property ***synonyms*** see INJURE **b** : to cause problems in or for (something) : to have a bad effect on (a situation, a person's reputation, etc.) ▪ The scandal significantly *damaged* her career. ▪ This news will undoubtedly *damage* the governor's reputation. ▪ He was worried that his comments had seriously *damaged* their relationship. ▪ He's trying to repair his *damaged* reputation. — see also DAMAGED GOODS

damaged goods *noun* [*plural*]

1 : products that are broken, cracked, scratched, etc.

2 *informal* : a person who is considered to be no longer desirable or valuable because of something that has happened : a person whose reputation is damaged ✧ This sense of

damaged goods is used with a singular verb. ▪ She hasn't been charged with a crime, but politically she's *damaged goods* and will never get elected.

damaging *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : causing or able to cause damage ▪ the *damaging* effects of the sun on your skin ▪ The storm may produce *damaging* winds. ▪ The chemical is *damaging* to the lungs. [=it will make a person's lungs less healthy] ▪ He says he has *damaging* information about the candidate. ▪ The evidence was very *damaging* to their case.

dam•ask /'dæməsk/ *noun, pl* **-asks** [*count, noncount*] : a thick usually shiny cloth that has patterns woven into it
– **damask** *adj* ▪ *damask* curtains ▪ The tablecloth is *damask*.

dame /'deɪm/ *noun, pl* **dames** [*count*]
1 *US slang, old-fashioned* : WOMAN ▪ She's one classy *dame*. ▪ a dignified old *dame* ✧ *Dame* is sometimes used to refer to a woman in an offensive or negative way. ▪ He married some rich *dame* for her money. ▪ "Who's the *dame*?" he asked rudely.
2 *Brit* : a woman who has been given a title as an honor for something she has done ▪ She was made/created a *dame* the year before she died. — used as a title ▪ *Dame* Myra Hess — see also GRANDE DAME

dam•mit /'dæmət/ *informal + impolite* — used in writing to represent the sound of the phrase *damn it*
as near as dammit see [1]NEAR

[1]**damn** /'dæm/ *interj, informal + impolite* — used to show that you are angry, annoyed, surprised, etc. ▪ *Damn*! That really hurt! ▪ Well, *damn*. Why didn't you say you wouldn't be able to come? ▪ *Damn*! I had no idea you were planning a party for me!

[2]**damn** *verb* **damns**; **damned**; **damn•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 *informal + impolite* **a** — used to show that you are angry or annoyed at a person, thing, or situation ▪ *Damn* them! They've ruined everything! ▪ *Damn* this rain. We haven't had a nice day in weeks. ▪ ***Damn it***! I forgot my keys! ▪ ***Damn it all***! **b** — used to say in a forceful way that you do not care about something ▪ I'm going to do it, *damn* the consequences. = I'm going to do it, the consequences ***be damned***. [=I'm going to do it despite the possible consequences]
2 : to send (someone) to hell as punishment after death — usually used as *(be) damned* ▪ He said that they would *be damned* (to hell) for all eternity. [=that God would force them to be in hell forever] — sometimes used figuratively ▪ She *was damned* [=(more commonly) *doomed*] by her own lack of foresight.
3 : to say or think bad things about (someone or something) : to strongly criticize (someone or something) ▪ He *damned* them for their stupidity.
as near as damn it see [1]NEAR
damn with faint praise : to give praise without enthusiasm in a way that shows you really dislike someone or something
I'll be damned *informal + impolite* **1** — used to show that you are very surprised about something ▪ Well *I'll be damned*! Our team actually won! — often + *if* ▪ I spent an hour putting the machine together and *I'll be damned if* it didn't fall apart as soon as I tried to use it. [=I was very surprised that it fell apart] — sometimes shortened to ***damned if*** ▪ I told them they wouldn't enjoy the trip but *damned if* they didn't come anyway. **2** — used to say that you cannot or will not do something; + *if* ▪ *I'll be damned if* I can remember where I left my keys. [=I cannot remember where I left my keys] ▪ *I'll be damned if* I'm going to eat any more of that disgusting food. [=I will not eat any more of it]
the damned : the people who have been sent to hell as punishment after their death ▪ the souls of *the damned*
(you're) damned if you do and damned if you don't *informal* — used to say that you will be blamed or considered wrong no matter what you do
– **damning** *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ A *damning* piece of evidence showed that he had been at the crime scene.

[3]**damn** *noun* [*singular*] *informal + impolite* : anything at all — usually used in negative statements ▪ This computer's ***not worth a damn***. [=it has no value; it is worthless] ▪ His promises ***don't mean a damn***. [=don't mean anything] — see also TINKER'S DAMN
give a damn *also* ***care a damn*** : to care at all about someone or something — used in negative statements ▪ He doesn't *give a damn* what people think about him. ▪ Nobody *gives a damn* about us. ▪ I don't want to hear about her problems. I just don't *give a damn*. ▪ They don't seem to *care a damn* about their future.

[4]**damn** *also* **damned** *adj, always used before a noun, informal + impolite*
1 — used to show that you are angry, annoyed, surprised, etc. ▪ Turn the *damn* TV off and listen to me! ▪ The *damned* car won't start again. ▪ That's none of your *damn* business. ▪ The *damn* thing never worked right.
2 — used to make a statement more forceful ▪ If you believe that, you're a *damn/damned* fool. ▪ It's a *damn* shame that she couldn't afford to go to college. ▪ She's a *damned* liar! ▪ There's not a *damn* thing you can do about it. [=you cannot do anything about it] — see also DAMNEDEST

[5]**damn** *also* **damned** *adv, informal + impolite* : very or extremely ▪ That was a *damn* good movie. ▪ You did a *damned* fine job on that project. ▪ You'd better make *damn* sure that it doesn't happen again. ▪ "You seem angry." "You're *damn* right I am! That's for *damn* sure!" ▪ Some people just talk too *damn* much. [=talk far too much] ▪ The idea's pretty *damn* smart, if you ask me. ▪ He ***damn near*** killed us! [=he almost killed us] ▪ You know ***damn well*** what happened. ▪ You *damn well* better finish the job. [=you must finish the job] ▪ He does whatever he *damn/damned well* pleases. [=he does whatever he wants to do] — see also DAMNEDEST

dam•na•ble /'dæmnəbəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *old-fashioned* : deserving strong criticism : very bad, wrong, annoying, etc. ▪ *damnable* lies ▪ *damnable* stupidity
– **dam•na•bly** /'dæmnəbli/ *adv* ▪ *damnably* difficult

dam•na•tion /dæm'neɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the state of being in hell as punishment after death ▪ The minister spoke about death and *damnation*. ▪ living in eternal *damnation*

[1]**damned•est** /'dæmdəst/ *adj, always used before a noun, chiefly US, informal + impolite* : most unusual or surprising ▪ It was the *damnedest* [=(more politely) *darnedest*] thing you ever saw. ▪ He said the *damnedest* thing the other day.

[2]**damnedest** *noun*
do your damnedest *or* ***try your damnedest*** *chiefly US, informal + impolite* : to try very hard to do something ▪ He's *doing his damnedest* to win. ▪ I'll *try my damnedest* [=*hardest, best*] to be there on time.

Damocles
sword of Damocles see SWORD

[1]**damp** /'dæmp/ *adj* **damp•er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~] : somewhat or slightly wet ▪ Wipe up the mess with a *damp* cloth. ▪ Her forehead was *damp* with perspiration. ▪ My hair's still *damp* from the rain. ▪ a *damp* spring day ▪ *damp* [=*humid*] weather ***synonyms*** see MOIST
damp squib see SQUIB
– **damp•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

[2]**damp** *noun* [*noncount*] : slight wetness in the air ▪ The books from her basement still smelled of *damp*. [=*dampness*] ▪ The boxes were left outside in the *damp*. ▪ the *damp* of the night

[3]**damp** *verb* **damps**; **damped**; **damp•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to make (something) somewhat or slightly wet : DAMPEN ▪ His hands were *damped* with sweat.
2 : to make (something) less strong or active ▪ Nothing could *damp* [=(more commonly) *dampen*, *depress*] his spirits.

damp•en /'dæmpən/ *verb* **-ens**; **-ened**; **-en•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to make (something) somewhat or slightly wet : to make (something) damp ▪ *Dampen* the spot with a wet cloth. ▪ The shower barely *dampened* the ground.
2 : to make (something) less strong or active ▪ We wouldn't let the bad weather *dampen* our excitement/enthusiasm/spirits. ▪ The experience *dampened* her interest [=made her less interested] in becoming a doctor.

damp•en•er /'dæmpənə/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : something that reduces the force or effect of something ▪ a noise *dampener*
put a dampener on *Brit* : to make (something) less strong, active, or exciting : to put a damper on (something) ▪ His bad mood *put a dampener on* the celebration.

damp•er /'dæmpə/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]
1 : a flat piece of metal in a fireplace, furnace, etc., that controls the amount of air that can enter ▪ Close the *damper*.
2 : a small piece of wood inside a piano that is covered with cloth and that stops the movement of a piano string
put a damper on : to make (something) less strong, active, or exciting ▪ His bad mood *put a damper on* the celebration. ▪ The rain *put a damper on* our plans for a picnic. ▪ He was *putting* a bit of *a damper on* her spirits.

dam•sel /'dæmzəl/ *noun, pl* **-sels** [*count*] *old-fashioned* : a young woman who is not married ✧ The phrase ***damsel in distress*** is used often humorously in modern speech and writing to refer to a woman who needs to be rescued. ▪ The

novel comes complete with a knight in shining armor and a *damsel in distress*.

[1]dance /ˈdæns, *Brit* ˈdɑːns/ *verb* **danc•es**; **danced**; **danc•ing**

1 a [*no obj*] : to move your body in a way that goes with the rhythm and style of music that is being played • He never learned how to *dance*. • She has always loved to *dance*. • I like the song but it's really hard to *dance* to. • Would you like to *dance* with me? = (more formally) Shall we *dance*? • We ***danced the night away***. [=we danced the entire evening] **b** [+ *obj*] : to move with and guide (someone) as music plays : to dance with (someone) • He *danced* her across the floor.

2 [+ *obj*] : to perform (a particular type of dance) • *dancing* the waltz/polka/twist

3 [*no obj*] : to perform as a dancer • She *dances* with a famous ballet company. • She's a great actress, and she can *dance* and sing, too.

4 [*no obj*] : to move quickly up and down, from side to side, etc. • We *danced* for joy when we heard the news. • He sat watching the leaves *dancing* in the breeze. • The boxer *danced* around his opponent.

dance to someone's tune : to do what someone wants or forces you to do • The boss has got everyone *dancing to her tune*. • The senators are *dancing to the tune of* the President.

– **danc•er** *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] • I'm a terrible *dancer*. • ballet *dancers* – **dancing** *adj* • We're taking *dancing* lessons. • *dancing* shoes – **dancing** *noun* [*noncount*] • They went out for dinner and *dancing*. • She's always loved *dancing*. • Would you like to ***go dancing*** tonight? — see also BALLROOM DANCING, BREAK DANCING, LAP DANCING

[2]dance *noun, pl* **dances**

1 [*count*] : a series of movements that are done as music is playing : a way of dancing • a slow *dance* • They can do all the popular *dances*. • The only *dance* he knows how to do is the twist. — often used before another noun • a *dance* move • *dance* classes • It's the latest *dance* craze. — see also BARN DANCE, BELLY DANCE, LINE DANCE, SQUARE DANCE, TAP DANCE, WAR DANCE

2 [*count*] : an act of dancing • How about one more *dance*? • He stopped right in the middle of the *dance* to tie his shoe. • Will you save a *dance* for me? [=will you dance with me during one song?] • He did a celebration *dance* in the end zone after scoring the touchdown.

3 [*noncount*] : the art or activity of dancing • She studied *dance* in college.

4 [*count*] : a social event at which people dance • The church held a *dance* to raise money. • Your father and I met at a *dance*. • high school *dances*

5 [*count*] : a song or piece of music (such as a waltz) to which people dance • The band can play all sorts of *dances*. — see also SONG AND DANCE

lead someone a (merry) dance see [1]LEAD

dance•able /ˈdænsəbəl, *Brit* ˈdɑːnsəbəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : able to be used for dancing : having a rhythm and style that people can dance to • a *danceable* song

dance card *noun, pl* ~ **cards** [*count*] *old-fashioned* : a card on which you write the names of people you are going to dance with at a social event — often used figuratively • Her *dance card* has been filling up quickly. [=she has been busy going to parties, on dates, etc.]

dance floor *noun, pl* ~ **floors** [*count*] : an area where people can dance inside a restaurant, club, hall, etc.

dance hall *noun, pl* ~ **halls** [*count*] : a large building or room in which people pay to go dancing • Their song is being played in *dance halls* across the country.

dan•de•li•on /ˈdændəˌlajən/ *noun, pl* **-ons** [*count*] : a very common wild plant that has bright yellow flowers

dan•der /ˈdændɚ/ *noun*

get someone's dander up *informal* : to cause someone to become angry • Her rudeness really *got my dander up*.

dan•dle /ˈdændəl/ *verb* **dan•dles**; **dan•dled**; **dan•dling** [+ *obj*] *chiefly Brit* : to move (a baby) up and down in your arms or on your knee as a way of playing • He was sitting in a corner *dandling* [=*bouncing*] his baby daughter on his knee.

dan•druff /ˈdændrəf/ *noun* [*noncount*] : very small white pieces of dead skin that form especially on a person's head • The shampoo is supposed to help control *dandruff*.

[1]dan•dy /ˈdændi/ *adj* **dan•di•er**; **-est** *chiefly US, informal* + *somewhat old-fashioned* : very good • This looks like a *dandy* [=*fine, splendid*] place to have lunch. • We thought something was wrong, but he said everything was just ***fine and dandy***.

[2]dandy *noun, pl* **-dies** [*count*]

1 *old-fashioned* : a man who cares too much about his clothing and personal appearance

2 *chiefly US, informal* : something that is very good or impressive : a very good example of something • Have you seen the new boat? It's a *dandy*. [=(more commonly) *beauty*] • That was a *dandy* of a game.

– **dan•dy•ish** /ˈdændijɪʃ/ *adj, old-fashioned* • He had a *dandyish* manner about him.

Dane /ˈdeɪn/ *noun, pl* **Danes** [*count*] : a person born, raised, or living in Denmark — see also GREAT DANE

[1]dang /ˈdæŋ/ *interj, US, informal* — used as a more polite form of *damn* • *Dang*! That hurt! • *Dang*! She sure looked surprised, didn't she?

[2]dang *verb, US, informal* — used as a more polite form of *damn* • *Dang* them! They're late again! • ***Dang it***. It's raining! • ***I'll be danged***! You found it!

[3]dang *also* **danged** *adj, US, informal* — used as a more polite form of *damn* or *damned* • Those *dang* kids stepped on our flowers! • a *dang/danged* fool • The whole *dang* city knows now. • There's not a *dang* thing you can do about it.

– **dang** *also* **danged** *adv* • What's so *dang/danged* funny, huh? • She's too *dang* skinny. • You know ***dang well*** where the key is. [=I am certain that you know where it is]

dan•ger /ˈdeɪnʤɚ/ *noun, pl* **-gers**

1 a [*noncount*] : the possibility that you will be hurt or killed • I was unaware of the *danger* that lay ahead. • She was fearless in the face of *danger*. • None of us had any real sense of *danger*. [=we did not think that we might be hurt or killed] • It was a journey fraught with *danger*. [=a very dangerous journey] • Patients need to be informed about the *danger* posed by the drug. [=about the ways the drug could possibly hurt them] • The sign on the door read "*Danger*. Keep out." • Their lives are ***in*** (grave/great/serious) ***danger***. • We're not ***out of danger*** yet. [=there is still a chance that we could be hurt or killed] **b** : the possibility that something unpleasant or bad will happen [*noncount*] There's less *danger* that you'll lose your money if you have a wide variety of investments. • We're all ***in danger*** of losing our jobs. [=we may all lose our jobs] • These animals are *in danger* of becoming extinct. = They are *in danger* of extinction. • (*humorous*) Don't worry about being ready for us by noon. There's no *danger* [=no chance] that we'll actually be there on time. [*singular*] There's a *danger* that your apology will be taken as a sign of weakness. • The *danger* is that we'll become careless as the process becomes more familiar. ✧ A ***danger zone*** is a place or situation in which you may be hurt or killed or in which something unpleasant or bad may happen. • The doctor warned that too much exertion could push my heart rate into the *danger zone*. • The houses are in a *danger zone* for wildfires. [=an area in which wildfires sometimes happen]

2 [*count*] : a person or thing that is likely to cause injury, pain, harm, or loss • It's important to teach your children about the *dangers* of smoking. • Here is a list of possible *dangers* associated with the procedure. • We believe it poses a serious *danger* to our national security. • He is a *danger* to himself and others. [=he might hurt himself and other people]

danger money *noun* [*noncount*] *Brit* : HAZARD PAY

dan•ger•ous /ˈdeɪnʤərəs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : involving possible injury, harm, or death : characterized by danger • Mining is *dangerous* [=*hazardous*] work. • They complained to their boss about the *dangerous* [=*unsafe*] working conditions. • She got into a car accident while driving through a *dangerous* intersection. • He often drives at *dangerous* speeds. • The city can be a *dangerous* place to live. • *dangerous* neighborhoods — often + *to* • Smoking is *dangerous* [=*hazardous*] *to* your health.

2 : able or likely to cause injury, pain, harm, etc. • The storms may cause *dangerous* flooding. • He is wanted for assault with a *dangerous* weapon. • *dangerous* animals • the most *dangerous* of drugs • a *dangerous* enemy • The police say that the man is ***armed and dangerous***. [=he has a gun and he might try to shoot someone]

dangerous ground/territory : a situation in which you may do or say something that will have a bad result, make people angry, etc. • As the conversation turned to politics, I knew we were heading into *dangerous territory*. • You know you're treading on *dangerous ground*, don't you?

– **dan•ger•ous•ly** *adv* • She suddenly became *dangerously* ill. • *dangerously* high levels of pollution • They came *dangerously* close to being caught. • He has always enjoyed living *dangerously*. – **dan•ger•ous•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

danger pay *noun* [*noncount*] *US* : HAZARD PAY

dan•gle /ˈdæŋgəl/ *verb* **dan•gles; dan•gled; dan•gling**
1 : to hang down loosely especially in a way that makes it possible to swing freely [*no obj*] Let your arms *dangle* at your sides. ▪ *dangling* earrings — often + *from* ▪ Diamonds and pearls *dangled from* her ears. ▪ Wires were *dangling* dangerously *from* the ceiling. ▪ A cigarette *dangled from* his lips. [+ *obj*] She sat on the edge of the pool, *dangling* her feet in the water. ▪ He *dangled* a piece of string in front of the cat.
2 [+ *obj*] *informal* : to offer (something) in order to persuade someone to do something ▪ The money she ***dangled in front of him*** wasn't enough to convince him to sell. ▪ They refused to accept the money that was ***dangled before their eyes***.
leave someone dangling *also* ***keep someone dangling*** *informal* : to force someone to be in an uncertain position or to wait for a decision ▪ We were *kept dangling* for weeks while the bank reviewed our loan application.

[1]Dan•ish /ˈdeɪnɪʃ/ *adj* : of or relating to Denmark, its people, or their language ▪ the *Danish* countryside ▪ *Danish* customs ▪ She knows a few *Danish* phrases.

[2]Danish *noun, pl* **Danish** *also* **Dan•ish•es**
1 [*noncount*] : the language of the Danes
2 *US* : DANISH PASTRY [*noncount*] We had cheese *Danish* for breakfast. [*count*] two raspberry *Danish/Danishes*

Danish pastry *noun, pl* ~ **-tries** [*count, noncount*] : a sweet pastry that often has fruit, icing, etc., on top — see picture at BAKING

dank /ˈdæŋk/ *adj* **dank•er; -est** : wet and cold in a way that is unpleasant ▪ a dark *dank* cave ***synonyms*** see MOIST

dap•per /ˈdæpɚ/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *somewhat old-fashioned*
1 : having a neat appearance : dressed in attractive clothes ▪ The students all looked very *dapper* in their uniforms. ▪ a *dapper* old gentleman
2 *of clothing* : attractive and of high quality ▪ a *dapper* [=*smart*] suit

dap•pled /ˈdæpəld/ *also* **dap•ple** /ˈdæpəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : marked with many spots of color or light ▪ a *dappled* gray horse ▪ *dappled* shade

[1]dare /ˈdeɚ/ *verb* **dares; dared; dar•ing**
1 [*no obj*] : to have enough courage or confidence to do something : to not be too afraid to do something ▪ Try it if you *dare*. ▪ We wanted to laugh but didn't *dare*. — often followed by *to* + *verb* ▪ We didn't *dare to stop*. ▪ No one *dared to say* anything. ▪ It was more than I had *dared to hope* for. ▪ She won their respect by *daring to ask* questions. — often followed by an infinitive verb without *to* ▪ We didn't *dare stop*. = We *dared* not *stop*. ▪ No one *dared say* anything. ▪ It was more than I had *dared hope* for. ▪ I need to know, but I don't *dare ask*. ▪ I wouldn't *dare do* it alone. = (*formal*) I *dare not* do it alone. ▪ Do we *dare* ask why? = *Dare* we ask why?
2 [+ *obj*] : to do (something that is difficult or that people are usually afraid to do) ▪ The actress *dared* a new interpretation of the classic role.
3 [+ *obj*] : to tell (someone) to do something especially as a way of showing courage ▪ She *dared* him to dive off the bridge. ▪ She *dared* me to ask him out on a date. I did, and he said yes.
don't you dare — used in speech to forcefully tell someone not to do something ▪ *Don't you dare* do that again, or you'll be sorry! ▪ "I'm going to tell mom that you got an 'F' on your test." "*Don't you dare*!"
how dare you — used in speech to show that you are angry about what someone has done or said ▪ *How dare you* touch me! ▪ *How dare he* speak to you like that!
I dare say *or chiefly Brit* ***I daresay*** *somewhat formal + old-fashioned* — used when you are stating your opinion about something ▪ *I dare say* he's right. ▪ This is, *I dare say*, one of the most beautiful places in the world.

[2]dare *noun, pl* **dares** [*count*] : the act of telling someone to do something as a way of showing courage — usually singular ▪ He dared her to go, but she refused to take/accept the *dare*. ▪ (*US*) He jumped from the bridge ***on a dare***. = (*Brit*) He jumped from the bridge ***for a dare***. [=someone dared him to jump from the bridge]

dare•dev•il /ˈdeɚˌdɛvl̩/ *noun, pl* **-ils** [*count*] : a person who does dangerous things especially in order to get attention ▪ He has always been a bit of a *daredevil*.
– **daredevil** *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ a *daredevil* driver/pilot

daren't /ˈderənt/ *chiefly Brit* — used as a contraction of *dare not* or *dared not* ▪ I *daren't* tell her what really happened.

dare•say /ˌdeɚˈseɪ/ *verb*
I daresay see [1]DARE

[1]daring *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : willing to do dangerous or difficult things ▪ a *daring* reporter who has covered several wars ▪ She's a *daring* innovator in the field of biotechnology.
2 : showing a lack of fear ▪ Emergency crews quickly planned a *daring* [=*bold*] rescue to get the people out of the burning building. ▪ a *daring* plan to steal the famous painting ▪ She decided to wear a *daring* dress to the party. ▪ ideas that are new and *daring* ▪ the artist's *daring* use of color
– **dar•ing•ly** /ˈderɪŋli/ *adv* ▪ a *daringly* original idea

[2]daring *noun* [*noncount*] : the quality of being willing to do dangerous or difficult things : courage or fearlessness ▪ Skydiving requires both skill and *daring*. ▪ He performs the trick with the *daring* of a stuntman.

[1]dark /ˈdɑɚk/ *adj* **dark•er; -est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : having very little or no light ▪ She sat in the *dark* room alone. ▪ It gets *dark* early in winter. [=the sun sets early; night comes sooner] ▪ It's getting *darker* outside. ▪ Soon it will be *dark* enough to see the stars. ▪ It was a *dark* and stormy night. ▪ Suddenly the room ***went dark***. [=suddenly there was no light in the room] — opposite LIGHT
2 : not light in color : of a color that is closer to black than white ▪ *Dark* clouds of smoke were coming from the windows. ▪ She's wearing a *dark* suit to the interview. ▪ a man wearing *dark* clothing ▪ You've got *dark* circles under your eyes this morning. ▪ *dark* spots/lines on the skin
3 *of a color* : having more black than white : not light ▪ *dark* blue ▪ a *dark* green shirt — opposite LIGHT
4 *of a person's hair, eyes, skin, etc.* : black or brown in color ▪ a person with a *dark* complexion = a *dark*-skinned person ▪ He is tall, *dark*, and handsome. [=he is a tall, handsome man with dark hair and eyes] — opposite FAIR
5 : less light in color than other things of the same kind ▪ *dark* rum ▪ *dark* roasted coffee beans — see also DARK CHOCOLATE, DARK MEAT
6 : lacking hope or happiness ▪ She had a rather *dark* [=*gloomy, dismal*] view of the future. ▪ I met her during a very *dark* time in my life. ▪ These are *dark* days for many companies.
7 : bad or evil ▪ The movie follows three heroes who fight the *dark* forces/powers that threaten the world. ▪ his *darker* side = the *darker* side of his personality ▪ He told no one his deep, *dark* secret. ▪ Drowning is his *darkest* [=*worst*] fear.
8 : dealing with unpleasant subjects such as crime, war, unhappy relationships, etc. ▪ a *dark* [=*black*] comedy about drug abuse ▪ *dark* humor ▪ It's a good movie, but it's really *dark*.
9 : full of mystery ▪ the government's *dark* secrets — see also DARK HORSE
10 *of a place* : not known or explored because it is far from where most people live ▪ the *darkest* regions of the continent
11 *of a voice* : low and full in sound ▪ his deep, *dark* voice
cast a dark cloud see [1]CLOUD
darkest hour see HOUR
– **dark•ish** /ˈdɑɚkɪʃ/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ Her hair was a *darkish* red color.

[2]dark *noun, pl* **darks**
1 ***the dark*** **a** : a state in which no light can be seen ▪ She stumbled around in *the dark* [=*darkness*] until she finally found the light switch. ▪ He's 12 years old and still afraid of *the dark*. **b** : a place where little or no light can be seen ▪ The burglars hid in *the dark* between the two buildings. ▪ He bought the kids special rings that glow in *the dark*.
2 [*noncount*] : the time of day when night begins : the time when the sky becomes dark for the night ▪ We'd better get home before *dark*. ▪ They waited until ***after dark*** to begin their escape.
3 ***darks*** [*plural*] **a** : dark colors : colors that are more black than white ▪ He uses lots of *darks* in his decorating. **b** : dark clothes : clothes that are black, dark brown, etc. ▪ Wash the lights and the *darks* separately.
in the dark **1** : in a state in which something is hidden or kept secret ▪ Most of their deals were made *in the dark*. **2** : in a state of not knowing about something ▪ The public was ***kept in the dark*** about the agreement. ▪ They *kept* us all *in the dark*. — see also *leap in the dark* at [2]LEAP, *shot in the dark* at [1]SHOT, *whistle in the dark* at [2]WHISTLE

Dark Ages *noun*
1 ***the Dark Ages*** : the period of European history from about A.D. 500 to 1000 : the first 500 years of the Middle Ages

2 *the Dark Ages* or *the dark ages* *often humorous* : the period of time before things developed into their modern form ▪ In *the dark ages* before computers, we often wrote our letters by hand. ▪ Her father's ideas about women are from *the Dark Ages*.

dark chocolate *noun, pl* ~ **-lates** [*count, noncount*] *US* : a kind of chocolate that is a very dark brown color and that is made without milk — called also (*Brit*) *plain chocolate*; compare MILK CHOCOLATE, WHITE CHOCOLATE

dark•en /ˈdɑɚkən/ *verb* **-ens**; **-ened**; **-en•ing**

1 : to make (something) dark or to become dark or darker in color [+ *obj*] Clouds *darkened* the sky. ▪ The hours I spent in the sun *darkened* [=*tanned*] my skin. [*no obj*] The sky *darkened* and it started to rain. ▪ Her face *darkens* to a deep red when she gets angry. ▪ The wood will *darken* as it ages.

2 : to make (something) less happy or to become less happy [+ *obj*] The bad news *darkened* his mood. ▪ The last days of her life were *darkened* by illness. [*no obj*] His mood *darkened* after he heard the bad news.

darken someone's door/doors : to go to or appear at a place where you are not welcome anymore ▪ She told him to leave and to never *darken her door* again. [=to never go to her house/apartment again]

– **darkened** *adj* ▪ He was sitting in a *darkened* [=*dark*] corner of the room. ▪ a car with *darkened* [=*dark*] windows

dark glasses *noun* [*plural*] : SUNGLASSES

dark horse *noun, pl* ~ **-es** [*count*]

1 : a person (such as a politician), animal, or thing that competes in a race or other contest and is not expected to win ▪ The Democrat from Utah has gone from being a *dark horse* to the front-runner in the campaign for President. ▪ The movie is a *dark horse* for the award.

2 *Brit* : a person who has interesting qualities or abilities that most people do not know about ▪ He is a *dark horse*, but I did find out that he once played football professionally.

dark•ly /ˈdɑɚkli/ *adv* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : in dark colors ▪ They were both *darkly* dressed in business suits. [=they were wearing dark suits] ▪ *darkly* colored clothing/fabric

2 : having black or brown eyes, hair, or skin ▪ a *darkly* handsome man

3 : in a way that shows a lack of hope or happiness ▪ He spoke *darkly* of the coming war. ▪ "We're heading for trouble," she warned *darkly*.

4 : in a way that is threatening ▪ She hinted *darkly* that they might regret not helping her.

5 : in a way that relates to unpleasant subjects (such as crime, war, unhappy relationships, etc.) ▪ His movie is a *darkly* comic portrayal of a troubled family. ▪ a *darkly* humorous/amusing story

6 : without being able to see clearly ▪ "For now we see through a glass, *darkly* . . . " —1 Corinthians 13:12 (KJV)

dark meat *noun* [*noncount*] : the meat that comes from the legs and thighs of chickens, turkeys, ducks, etc. ▪ Would you like white meat or *dark meat*? — compare WHITE MEAT

dark•ness /ˈdɑɚknəs/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 : a state in which little or no light can be seen : a dark state or condition ▪ We tried to find our way through the *darkness*. [=*dark*] ▪ the *darkness* of the movie theater ▪ He escaped under cover of *darkness*. [=while it was dark outside; at night] ▪ in the early morning *darkness* = in the *darkness* of early morning ▪ We watched the mountains fade into the *darkness*. ▪ 12 hours of *darkness* ▪ Although the picture was taken in near *darkness*, you can still see her white dress. ▪ absolute/complete/total *darkness* — opposite LIGHT

2 : the state of having a color or shade that is closer to black than white ▪ The *darkness* of the clouds warned us that rain was coming. ▪ the rich *darkness* of his skin

3 : a state in which information is hidden from most people ▪ The family's secret remained hidden/shrouded in *darkness* [=*secrecy*] and mystery.

4 *literary* **a** : evil or wickedness ▪ They set off to fight the forces/powers of *darkness*. **b** : a lack of knowledge, understanding, or education : a state in which little is known or understood ▪ people living in *darkness* [=*ignorance*] and sin

dark•room /ˈdɑɚkˌruːm/ *noun, pl* **-rooms** [*count*] : a room that is used for making photographs and that is lit with a special kind of red light

[1]dar•ling /ˈdɑɚlɪŋ/ *noun, pl* **-lings** [*count*]

1 a : a person you love very much ▪ She was mother's little *darling*. — often used to address someone you love ▪ How was your day, *darling*? [=*sweetheart, dear*] ▪ *Darling*, what's the matter? **b** : a kind and helpful person ▪ Be a *darling* [=*dear, sweetie*] and carry this inside for me.

2 : someone who is liked very much by a person or group ▪ a media *darling* — often + *of* ▪ They are the newest *darlings of* the pop rock world. ▪ an actress who is the *darling of* critics

[2]darling *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 *always used before a noun* : greatly loved ▪ This is my *darling* daughter, Sara.

2 *informal* : very pleasing or attractive ▪ What a *darling* [=*cute, adorable*] dress! ▪ He told the children a *darling* [=*charming*] story after dinner. ▪ That dress is just *darling*.

[1]darn /ˈdɑɚn/ *verb* **darns**; **darned**; **darn•ing** [+ *obj*] : to fix (a piece of clothing, a hole, etc.) by sewing ▪ Would you *darn* these socks, please? ▪ She is *darning* a tear in the dress. — compare [4]DARN

[2]darn *noun, pl* **darns** [*count*] : a hole or tear that has been fixed by sewing ▪ The old sweater is full of *darns*. — compare [5]DARN

[3]darn *interj, US, informal* — used as a more polite form of *damn* ▪ *Darn*! That hurt! ▪ *Darn*! We missed meeting them.

[4]darn *verb, chiefly US, informal* — used as a more polite form of *damn* ▪ *Darn* him! Why won't he call? ▪ *Darn* this car. It never starts right anymore. ▪ ***Darn it***! I forgot to call them! ▪ ***Darn it all***! ▪ Be quiet, ***gosh darn it***! I can't hear myself think! ▪ Well ***I'll be darned***! You actually showed up! [=I am very surprised that you showed up] ▪ ***I'll be darned if*** the train didn't leave until an hour later. ▪ I offered to help, but ***darned if*** she didn't do the whole thing herself. [=I was very surprised that she did the whole thing herself] — see also DARNEDEST — compare [1]DARN

[5]darn *noun, chiefly US, informal* — used as a more polite form of *damn* ▪ His opinion isn't ***worth a darn***. [=it has no value; it is worthless] ▪ I don't ***give a darn*** [=I do not care at all] what people say about me. ▪ Nobody ***cares a darn*** [=cares at all] about them. — compare [2]DARN

[6]darn *or* **darned** *adj, chiefly US, informal* — used as a more polite form of *damn* ▪ Shut your *darn* mouth and pay attention! ▪ This ***gosh darn*** computer isn't working right. ▪ I didn't learn a *darn* thing in class today. ▪ This *darned* window won't open! ▪ It's a *darn* shame that they couldn't stay longer. [=it is a complete shame; it is very unfortunate] ▪ If he believes that, he's a *darn* fool! [=he is very foolish to believe that] ▪ There's not a *darn* thing anyone can say to make her do it. ▪ That was the best *darn* pie I ever ate. — see also DARNEDEST

– **darn** /ˈdɑɚn/ *or* **darned** *adv* ▪ That was a *darn* good meal. ▪ I spent the summer learning how to play chess and got pretty *darn* good at it. ▪ He's too *darned* nice. ▪ We ***darn near*** [=very nearly] didn't get there in time. ▪ You ***darn well*** know what happened. [=you know exactly what happened] ▪ I'll do whatever I *darn well* please. [=I will do whatever I want to do]

darned•est /ˈdɑɚndəst/ *adj, chiefly US, informal* — used as a more polite form of *damnedest* ▪ It was the *darnedest* thing I ever saw. ▪ Kids do and say the *darnedest* things.

– **darnedest** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ He was ***doing/trying his darnedest*** to please everyone.

[1]dart /ˈdɑɚt/ *noun, pl* **darts**

1 [*count*] : a small object that has a sharp point at one end and that is thrown in the game of darts or used as a weapon ▪ throwing *darts* ▪ He was hit with a poisoned *dart*. — often used figuratively ▪ She frequently uses her editorials to hurl/throw *darts* at the White House. [=to sharply criticize the White House] ▪ He'd been sending *darts of* sarcasm in her direction all evening.

2 *darts* [*noncount*] : a game in which darts are thrown at a board that is marked with circles ▪ Her favorite game is *darts*. ▪ Let's play *darts*. — see also DARTBOARD

3 [*singular*] : a quick movement ▪ a quick *dart* to the left ▪ (*chiefly Brit*) The cat ***made a dart for*** the door.

4 [*count*] : a sudden, sharp pain ▪ A *dart* of pain ran through his back.

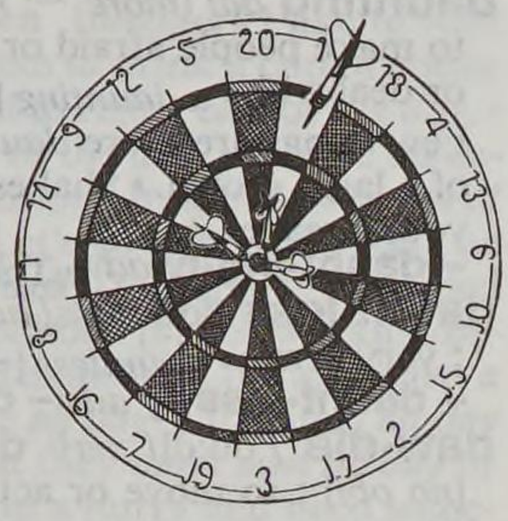
5 [*count*] : a small fold that is sewn into a piece of clothing ▪ She sewed a couple of *darts* in the skirt to make it fit better.

[2]dart *verb, always followed by an adverb or preposition* **darts**; **dart•ed**; **dart•ing** : to run or move quickly or suddenly in a particular direction or to a particular place [*no obj*] We saw a deer *dart across* the road. ▪ I *darted* [=*dashed*] *inside* to get some ice. ▪ Her eyes *darted from* the door to the window. [=she looked suddenly and briefly at the door and then at the window] [+ *obj*] The frog *darted* its tongue at a fly.

dart a glance/look at : to look suddenly and briefly at

(something or someone) ▪ She *darted a* suspicious *glance at* her sister.

dart•board /'dɑɚt,boɚd/ *noun, pl* **-boards** [*count*] : a round board that is marked with circles, lines, and numbers and that is used as a target in the game of darts



dartboard

Dar•win•ian /dɑɚ'wɪnijən/ *adj*
1 : of or relating to Charles Darwin or to the ideas and theories of Charles Darwin ▪ a *Darwinian* theory/principle ▪ a *Darwinian* approach to evolution
2 : of or relating to a situation in which only people, businesses, etc., with the strongest skills or abilities are successful ▪ The competition among manufacturers is very *Darwinian*. ▪ the *Darwinian* world of professional sports
– **Darwinian** *noun, pl* **-ians** [*count*] ▪ The scientist considers himself a *Darwinian*. [=a person who agrees with the ideas of Charles Darwin]

Dar•win•ism /'dɑɚwə,nɪzəm/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the theory of Charles Darwin about how plant and animal species develop : EVOLUTION
– **Dar•win•ist** /'dɑɚwənɪst/ *adj* – **Darwinist** *noun, pl* **-ists** [*count*]

[1]dash /'dæʃ/ *verb* **dash•es; dashed; dash•ing**
1 [*no obj*] : to run or move quickly or suddenly ▪ I'm sorry, but I must *dash*. I'm late. ▪ She *dashed* down the hallway to the bathroom. ▪ People were *dashing* inside to get out of the rain. ▪ The dog *dashed* [=*darted*] across the busy street. — often + *off* ▪ She *dashed off* [=left suddenly and quickly] without finishing her breakfast.
2 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* **a** [*no obj*] : to hit something in a violent and forceful way ▪ The waves *dashed* [=*smashed*] against the rocks. **b** [+ *obj*] : to break or destroy (something) by throwing or hitting it against something ▪ The waves *dashed* the boat against the rocks. ▪ In her anger, she *dashed* [=*smashed*] the plate to pieces on the floor.
3 [+ *obj*] : to destroy or ruin (something, such as a hope or an expectation) ▪ Her hopes of winning a medal were *dashed* after she broke her leg. ▪ our *dashed* expectations/dreams
dash it (all) *Brit, informal + old-fashioned* — used in speech to express anger, frustration, etc. ▪ *Dash it all*! I've forgotten my keys!
dash off [*phrasal verb*] ***dash off (something)*** *or* ***dash (something) off*** : to write (something) in a very quick and hurried way ▪ I have just enough time to *dash off* a letter. — see also [1]DASH 1 (above)

[2]dash *noun, pl* **dashes**
1 [*count*] : a punctuation mark — that is used especially to show a break in thought or in the structure of a sentence (as in "We don't know where—or how—the problem began.")
2 [*count*] : a small amount of something that is added to something else — usually singular ▪ Add some salt, but just a *dash*. — usually + *of* ▪ The soup needs a *dash of* salt. ▪ Add a couple *dashes* [=*splashes*] *of* wine or lemon juice. ▪ Red roses can bring a *dash* [=*touch*] *of* romance to your evening. ▪ The essay has a *dash of* humor.
3 [*singular*] : the act of running or moving quickly or suddenly in a particular direction or to a particular place ▪ We ***made a dash*** for the exit. ▪ In his ***mad dash*** [=*mad rush*] to the store, he forgot his wallet.
4 [*count*] : a short, fast race ▪ She ran in the 50-meter *dash*.
5 [*noncount*] *old-fashioned* : a way of behaving that is full of energy and spirit ▪ She was a leader with *dash* and confidence. ▪ He had daring and *dash*.
6 [*count*] *informal* : DASHBOARD ▪ The map is on the *dash*.
7 [*count*] : a long signal (such as a sound or a flash of light) that represents a letter or part of a letter in Morse code ▪ The Morse code for the letter *u* is two dots and a *dash*. — compare [1]DOT 3
cut a dash *Brit, informal + old-fashioned* : to look attractive in the clothes you are wearing ▪ He really *cuts a dash* in his new suit.

dash•board /'dæʃ,boɚd/ *noun, pl* **-boards** [*count*] : the part of the inside of a car, truck, etc., that is below the windshield and that has the controls on it — called also (*Brit*) *fascia*; see picture at CAR; compare INSTRUMENT PANEL

dashed /'dæʃt/ *adj* : made up of a set of dashes (sense 1) ▪ a *dashed* line

dashing *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *of a man or a man's appearance* : attractive and impressive in a way that shows confidence ▪ She married a *dashing* young lawyer from the city. ▪ a brave and *dashing* soldier ▪ his *dashing* good looks ▪ The actor ***cuts a dashing figure*** as a young Jack Kennedy.
– **dash•ing•ly** /'dæʃɪŋli/ *adv* ▪ He is *dashingly* handsome.

das•tard•ly /'dæstɚdli/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *old-fashioned* : very cruel : using tricks to hurt people ▪ a *dastardly* villain ▪ *dastardly* deeds ▪ a *dastardly* attack on innocent civilians

da•ta /'deɪtə, 'dætə/ *noun*
1 [*plural*] : facts or information used usually to calculate, analyze, or plan something ▪ She spent hours reviewing the *data* from the experiment. ▪ They made their decisions based on the survey *data*. ▪ Much of the *data* is inconclusive. ▪ The company has access to your personal *data*.

usage *Data* is plural in form but is used with both plural and singular verbs. ▪ Is this *data* accurate? ▪ Are these *data* reliable? When used with plural verbs, *data* is thought of as the plural form of the noun *datum*. It is usually used with plural verbs only in formal or technical writing. ▪ Many of these *data* are incorrect.

2 [*noncount*] : information that is produced or stored by a computer ▪ She works as a *data* entry clerk. ▪ There was too much *data* for the computer to process. ▪ He is an expert in *data* retrieval. [=finding information stored on a computer]

da•ta•base /'deɪtə,beɪs, 'dætə,beɪs/ *noun, pl* **-bas•es** [*count*] : a collection of pieces of information that is organized and used on a computer ▪ All of our customers' information was kept in/on a *database*. ▪ an online *database* — called also *data bank*

data processing *noun* [*noncount*] : the process of putting information into a computer so that the computer can organize it, change its form, etc. — often used before another noun ▪ *data-processing* software

[1]date /'deɪt/ *noun, pl* **dates** [*count*]
1 a : a particular day of a month or year ▪ The *date* of the party is March 1. ▪ What's today's *date*? ▪ They announced June 10th as their wedding *date*. [=they announced that they would get married on June 10th] ▪ They have not yet ***set a date*** for the trial. [=they have not decided what day the trial will start on] ▪ The decision will be made ***at a later/future date***. [=at some time in the future] ▪ your ***date of birth*** = your ***birth date*** [=the day you were born] — see also DUE DATE, OUT-OF-DATE, UP-TO-DATE **b** : writing that shows when something was done or made ▪ The *date* on the letter was the 26th of April. ▪ a coin with a *date* of 1902
2 : an agreement to meet someone at a particular time or on a particular day ▪ He set up a *date* [=(more commonly) *appointment*] to meet with his professor. ▪ "So we'll meet for coffee next Tuesday?" "Yes. It's a *date*." [=I agree to meet you then]
3 a : an occasion when two people who have or might have a romantic relationship do an activity together ▪ We went (out) on a few *dates* last year. ▪ She asked him (out) on a *date*. ▪ They went to an Italian restaurant on their first *date*. ▪ I'm ***going (out) on a date*** with him tomorrow night. = I ***have a date*** with him tomorrow night. — see also BLIND DATE, DOUBLE DATE **b** *chiefly US* : a person you have a date with ▪ I have to pick up my *date* at seven o'clock. ▪ Are you bringing a *date* to the dance? ▪ He has a different *date* every night. [=he dates a different person every night]
to date : up to now : until the present time ▪ We've received no complaints *to date*. [=*yet*] ▪ This is their greatest success *to date*. ▪ *To date*, most of their work has been preparatory.
up to date **1** — used to say that something or someone has or does not have the newest information ▪ These textbooks are not *up to date*. — usually used with *bring* or *keep* ▪ They needed to *bring* the first edition of the textbook *up to date*. ▪ It's hard to *keep* all our records *up to date*. ▪ This memo should *bring* everyone *up to date* on the latest changes. [=give everyone the newest information about the most recent changes] ▪ She reads the magazines to *keep up to date* on the latest fashions. [=to know what is fashionable] **2** — used to say that something is or is not modern or new ▪ The styles are not *up to date*. — usually used with *bring* or *keep* ▪ The book *brings* the familiar fable *up to date* by setting it in the present day. — see also UP-TO-DATE
– compare [3]DATE
– **date•less** /'deɪtləs/ *adj* ▪ a *dateless* letter/photo ▪ another *dateless* Friday night

[2]date *verb* **dates; dat•ed; dat•ing**
1 *chiefly US* : to do an activity with someone you have might have a romantic relationship with : to go on a date or several dates with (someone) [+ *obj*] She *dated* a couple guys during college. • He only *dates* younger women. [*no obj*] They *dated* a couple of times. [=they went on a couple of dates] • They've been *dating* for six months. • I haven't *dated* [=gone on a date] in 20 years. — see also DOUBLE-DATE
2 [+ *obj*] : to write the date on (something) • Don't forget to sign and *date* the application. • The letter was not *dated*. • a memo *dated* July 12th, 2003 • a coin *dated* 1902 — see also ANTEDATE, BACKDATE, POSTDATE, PREDATE
3 [+ *obj*] : to show or find out when (something) was made or produced • Historians *date* the document to the early 1700s. • The ancient building was *dated* by a coin found in one of the rooms. • Scientists use various techniques to *date* fossils. — see also CARBON DATING, RADIOCARBON DATING
4 [+ *obj*] : to show or prove that (someone or something) is old or from a long time ago : to make (someone or something) seem old-fashioned or out-of-date • The decor really *dates* the house. • I'm *dating* myself in saying this, but I remember when cell phones were rare.
5 [*no obj*] : to begin to exist : to appear for the first time • This bowl ***dates from*** the sixth century. [=this bowl was made in the sixth century] • a custom that ***dates back*** [=*goes back*] 400 years [=a custom that began 400 years ago] • They found jewelry ***dating back to*** [=that was made in] the 1700s. • a set of rules *dating* as far *back* as the Middle Ages
– dat•able *also* **date•able** /'deɪtəbəl/ *adj* • All the furniture is *datable* to the 1800s.

[3]date *noun, pl* **dates** [*count*] : a small, sweet, brown fruit from a kind of palm tree — compare [1]DATE

date•book /'deɪt,bʊk/ *noun, pl* **-books** [*count*] : a small book or calendar in which people write dates, appointments, etc., that they have planned or scheduled — called also (*Brit*) *diary*

dated *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : coming from or belonging to a time in the past : old-fashioned or out-of-date • the restaurant's *dated* decor • The band's music sounds *dated* now. • The information was quite *dated* and no longer useful.

date line *noun* [*singular*] : INTERNATIONAL DATE LINE

date rape *noun* [*noncount*] : the crime of forcing someone you know to have sex with you especially while on a date • He was accused of *date rape*.
– date rapist *noun, pl* **~ -ists** [*count*]

dating service *noun, pl* **~ -vices** [*count*] : a business that introduces people to each other so that they can decide if they want to date each other • online *dating services* — called also (*Brit*) *dating agency*

da•tive /'deɪtɪv/ *noun* [*noncount*] *grammar* : the form of a noun or pronoun when it is the indirect object of a verb • a noun in the *dative*
– dative *adj* • words in the *dative case* • a *dative* ending

da•tum /'deɪtəm, 'dætəm/ *noun, pl* **da•ta** /'deɪtə, 'dætə/ *or* **da•tums** [*count*] *formal + technical* : a single piece of information • an important historical *datum* [=*fact*] ***usage*** see DATA

[1]daub /'dɑ:b/ *verb* **daubs; daubed; daub•ing**
1 [+ *obj*] **a** : to put something on something with quick, small motions : DAB • He *daubed* some cologne on his neck. • *Daub* the potatoes with a little butter. **b** : to write (something) on a surface • Various political slogans had been *daubed* on the walls.
2 : to lightly touch (something) usually with quick, small motions : DAB [+ *obj*] He sighed deeply and *daubed* his eyes with a tissue. [*no obj*] — usually + *at* • She *daubed at* the wound with a wet cloth.

[2]daub *noun, pl* **daubs** [*count*] : a small amount of something : DAB • She added a few *daubs* of color to the painting.

daugh•ter /'dɑ:tɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ters** [*count*] : a female child • We have a *daughter* and two sons. • my 20-year-old *daughter* • an adopted *daughter* — see also GODDAUGHTER, GRANDDAUGHTER, STEPDAUGHTER
– daugh•ter•ly /'dɑ:tɚli/ *adj* • *daughterly* love

daugh•ter–in–law /'dɑ:tɚɪn,lɑ:/ *noun, pl* **-ters–in–law** /-tɚzɪn,lɑ:/ [*count*] : the wife of your son — see also IN-LAW

daunt /'dɑ:nt/ *verb* **daunts; daunt•ed; daunt•ing** [+ *obj*] *somewhat formal* : to make (someone) afraid or less confident • The project doesn't seem to *daunt* [=*intimidate*] them. [=they seem to be undaunted by the project] — often used as *(be) daunted* • She *was* not *daunted* by the difficult task.
nothing daunted *Brit, old-fashioned* — used to say that someone is not afraid at all • It was a difficult situation, but *nothing daunted*, she refused to quit.

daunting *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *somewhat formal* : tending to make people afraid or less confident : very difficult to do or deal with • a *daunting* [=*intimidating, overwhelming*] task • Few things are more *daunting* than having to speak in front of a large crowd. • Shakespeare's plays can be *daunting* for a young reader.
– daunt•ing•ly *adv* • The system is *dauntingly* complex.

daunt•less /'dɑ:ntləs/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *formal + literary* : very brave • *dauntless* [=*fearless*] heroes
– daunt•less•ly *adv* **– daunt•less•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

daw•dle /'dɑ:dl̩/ *verb* **daw•dles; daw•dled; daw•dling** [*no obj*] : to move or act too slowly • Hurry up! There's no time to *dawdle*. • Come home immediately after school, and don't *dawdle*. • She *dawdled* [=*lingered*] over her breakfast.
– daw•dler *noun, pl* **daw•dlers** [*count*]

[1]dawn /'dɑ:n/ *noun, pl* **dawns**
1 : the time of day when sunlight first begins to appear [*noncount*] We arrived at/before/after *dawn*. [=*sunrise, daybreak*] • We danced till *dawn*. • the *dawn's* clear light • as ***dawn breaks*** over the city • He woke up ***at the crack of dawn***. [=very early in the morning] • She drove ***from dawn to/until dusk***. [=from early morning until early evening] [*count*] Winter brings late *dawns* and early sunsets. — compare DUSK
2 [*count*] : the beginning of something — usually singular; usually + *of* • People have fought with each other since the *dawn of* history/time/civilization. • the *dawn of* a new era/age • at the *dawn of* the 21st century

[2]dawn *verb* **dawns; dawned; dawn•ing** [*no obj*]
1 : to begin to become light as the sun rises • They waited for the day to *dawn*.
2 : to start or begin • A new age/era is *dawning*.
3 : to begin to be understood • Suddenly, the truth *dawns*.
— see also *light dawns* at [1]LIGHT
dawn on [*phrasal verb*] ***dawn on (someone)*** : to begin to be understood or realized by (someone) for the first time • The solution finally *dawned on* him. [=he finally saw the solution] • It suddenly *dawned on* me that I hadn't eaten all day. • It began to *dawn on* her that she was lost.
– dawn•ing *noun* [*noncount*] • the *dawning* [=*beginning*] of a new day/age/era

day /'deɪ/ *noun, pl* **days**
1 [*count*] : a period of 24 hours beginning at midnight : one of the seven time periods that make up a week • We're open seven *days* a week, 365 *days* a year. • Payment is due on the first *day* of every month. • "What *day* is (it) today?" "Tuesday." • "What *day* [=*date*] is Friday?" "It's the 28th." • "What *day* of the week is the 28th?" "It's a Friday." • He spent five *days* in the hospital. • She left on Thursday and came back four *days* later. • The baby is due (to be born) in three *days*. • That was the happiest *day* of my life. • Parenthood gets better every *day*. • We'll be finished in a *day* or two. = We'll be finished in a couple of *days*. • It rained for a *day* and a half. [=it rained for about 36 hours] • The office is closed for the *day*. • I call him every (single) *day*. • Tomorrow is another *day*. [=there will be more opportunities to do things tomorrow] • a *day* of celebration/mourning [=a day for people to celebrate/mourn] • Take one pill two times ***a day***. [=each day] • She works eight hours *a day*. • It costs 10 dollars *a day* to park there. • The party is ***the day after tomorrow***. = The party is in two *days*. • It happened ***the day before yesterday***. = It happened two *days* ago. • Sometimes they didn't speak to each other for ***days on end***. [=several days] • ***From that day forth/forward*** [=(less formally) *from then on*], I was determined to do better. ✧ If you ***do not look a day over*** a particular age, you appear to be that age. • "Today's my 50th birthday." "Really? I'm surprised. You *don't look a day over* 40." [=you don't look any older than 40 years old] ✧ If you say that someone is a particular age ***if he/she is a day***, you mean that the person is that age or older. • The man she's dating is 60 *if he's a day*. [=he is at least sixty years old]
2 : the time of light between one night and the next : the part of the day when light from the sun can be seen [*count*] What a beautiful summer *day*! • a cold/wet/rainy *day* • The shortest *day* of the year is usually December 22, and June 22 is usually the longest. [*noncount*] He sleeps during the *day* [=*daytime*] and works at night. • You can call me any time, *day* or night. • These animals are mostly active during the *day*. • I work during the *day*. [=I work days] • She's a student ***by day*** [=during the day] and a waitress by night. • I woke at (the) ***break of day***. [=(more commonly) *dawn, daybreak, sun-*

rise] ▪ ***day workers*** [=people who work during the day] — opposite NIGHT

3 : the part of the day when people are usually most active and when most businesses are open [*singular*] I like to start my *day* with a cup of coffee. [=I like to drink a cup of coffee as soon as I wake up] ▪ We decided to rent a car for the *day*. ▪ How was your *day*? ▪ By the end of the *day*, we were all exhausted. ▪ Our neighbors play their loud music ***at all hours of the day***. [=throughout the day] ▪ Let's go to bed. We have an ***early day*** [=we will get out of bed early] tomorrow. ▪ I needed to relax after a ***long day*** at work/school. [=after working/being at school for a long time] ▪ "Thank you, ma'am. ***Have a nice day***!" [*noncount*] I'll be gone ***all day***. ▪ It rained ***all day long***. ✧ People sometimes say that they ***can't wait all day*** or ***don't have all day*** when they are in a hurry and need someone to move or act more quickly. These phrases are usually used in a rude way. ▪ Hurry up! I *can't wait all day*! = I *don't have all day*. = I *haven't got all day*.

4 [*count*] : the hours during a day when a person works or goes to school or when a company does business ▪ I put in four twelve-hour *days* [=*workdays*] this week. ▪ She makes about 50 dollars a/per *day*. ▪ He was late for his first *day* on the job. ▪ They collected a full *day*'s pay for half a *day*'s work. ▪ We had a busy couple of *days* at the store. ▪ We have a short *day* tomorrow. [=we have to work fewer hours tomorrow than usual] ▪ The school committee is pushing for a longer school *day*. ▪ Tomorrow's our last *day* of school (for the school year). ▪ Please allow 14 ***business days*** [=days when most businesses are open; weekdays that are not holidays] for delivery. ✧ If something is ***all in a day's work*** for someone, it is part of a person's typical work. ▪ Solving violent crimes is *all in a day's work* for these police detectives. ✧ To ***take a/the day off*** is to decide not to work on a particular day. ▪ He *took the day off* to go fishing.

5 [*count*] : the day on which something specified happens or is expected to happen ▪ It rained on their wedding *day*. ▪ the *day* of his birth ▪ This Sunday is ***family day*** [=a day for families especially with young children] at the amusement park. ▪ If you've been waiting for the perfect skiing conditions, ***today's the day***. [=the conditions are perfect today] ▪ So, when's ***the big day***? When are you getting married? ▪ Did you ever think you'd ***see the day*** when he would apologize? [=did you believe he would ever apologize?] ▪ I never thought I would ***live to see the day*** when you would graduate from college. [=I did not think I would live long enough to see you graduate] ▪ Let her have her ***day in court*** [=let her defend herself in a court of law] before you pass judgment on her. ▪ This is ***your lucky day***. [=a day when something good happens to you] ✧ If a day ***is your day***, something good will happen to you on that day. ▪ You never know. Maybe today will *be my day*. [=maybe I will succeed, win, etc., today] ▪ I'm sorry you lost. I guess it just *wasn't your day*. ✧ People sometimes use the phrase ***that'll be the day*** to say that they think something will not happen. ▪ "Do you think he'll ever admit he made a mistake?" "*That'll be the day*!"

6 [*count*] : a particular period of time ▪ She was the most talented actress of her *day*. [=during the time when she lived and worked as an actress] ▪ ***In my day*** [=when I was young], boys asked girls out on dates, not the other way around. ▪ Life was simpler *in my grandmother's day*, but it wasn't easier. ▪ We sell books dating from 1875 to ***the present day***. [=*today*] — often plural ▪ He often spoke about his *days* as a soldier. ▪ I was quite an athlete in my younger *days*. [=when I was young] ▪ The practice dates back to the *days* of ancient Rome. ▪ the olden *days* ▪ my college *days* [=when I was in college] ▪ the *days* of stagecoaches [=when stagecoaches were used] ▪ In those *days* many factory workers were children. ✧ The saying ***those were the days*** is sometimes used to say that a period of time in the past was pleasant and often better than the present time. ▪ When I was a kid, we spent our summers at the beach. *Those were the days*! ▪ In the 1960s, everything seemed possible. Those were ***the good old days***.

(all) the livelong day see LIVELONG

any day now : within the next few days : SOON ▪ We're expecting a phone call from him *any day now*. [=in the near future] ▪ *Any day now*, the decision could be made.

at the end of the day see [1]END

call it a day see [1]CALL

carry/win the day : to win or be successful ▪ The "no" vote *carried the day*. [=*prevailed*] ▪ We believe that truth and justice will *carry/win the day*.

day after day : for several days without stopping or changing ▪ She wore the same pants *day after day*. ▪ *Day after day*, we hear the same complaints from our customers.

day and night *or* ***night and day*** **1** : all the time : without stopping ▪ We've been working on it *day and night*. = We've been working on it *night and day*. **2** : complete or total ▪ The difference between them is *day and night*. = The difference between them is *night and day*. [=they are completely different]

day by day : in small amounts every day ▪ *Day by day*, the situation is becoming more complex. ▪ She felt herself growing stronger *day by day*. [=every day] ✧ If you ***take it/things day by day***, you make progress in a slow and careful way by dealing with each day as it comes. ▪ He hopes to make a full recovery after his surgery, but right now he's just *taking it day by day*. [=*taking it one day at a time*, *taking each day as it comes*] ▪ I don't know if our relationship is going to work out. I'm *taking things day by day* at this point.

day in, day out *or* ***day in and day out*** : every day for many days : for a long time without stopping or changing ▪ She does the same thing at her job *day in, day out*. ▪ It can be difficult to spend all of your time with one person *day in and day out*.

days are numbered see [2]NUMBER

early days (yet) see [2]EARLY

every dog has its day see [1]DOG

for a rainy day see RAINY

from day to day : every day ▪ His opinions seem to change *from day to day*. [=*from one day to the next*] — see also DAY-TO-DAY

from one day to the next : every day ▪ She changes her mind *from one day to the next*. [=*from day to day*] : as one day becomes another day ▪ You never know *from one day to the next* what's going to happen to you.

give (someone) the time of day *chiefly US, informal* : to pay attention to someone — usually used in negative statements ▪ No one would *give us the time of day*. ▪ I needed their help, but they wouldn't *give me the time of day*.

glory days see [1]GLORY

have seen/known better days see [1]BETTER

in all your born days see BORN

in the cold light of day see [1]COLD

in this day and age : at the present time in history ▪ Computers are essential to getting work done *in this day and age*. [=*nowadays*] ▪ It's unbelievable that *in this day and age* people are still dying from hunger.

it is not every day — used to say that something happens very rarely ▪ *It's not every day* that I get to meet the President. ▪ Go ahead and spend the extra money. *It's not every day* that you get married.

late in the day see [1]LATE

make someone's day : to cause someone's day to be pleasant or happy ▪ Thanks for the compliment. You've really *made my day*! ▪ It *made my day* to see his smiling face.

of the day **1** : served in a restaurant as a special item on a particular day ▪ What's the fish/vegetable *of the day*? ▪ Our soup *of the day* [=*du jour*] is vegetable beef. **2** : of a particular period of time ▪ What were some of the popular movies *of the day*? [=that were popular during that time] ▪ the important issues *of the day*

one day **1** : at some time in the future ▪ *One day*, it'll happen. You'll see. ▪ People may *one day* [=*someday*] be able to take vacations to the moon. **2** : on a day in the past ▪ I went to her house *one day* and had lunch with her. ▪ *One day*, we had a terrible argument.

on the day *Brit* : on the day that an event happens ▪ I know we seem a bit disorganized now, but we'll be all right *on the day*. ▪ Whether we win or not depends on which players are healthy *on the day*.

save the day see [1]SAVE

see the light of day see [1]LIGHT

some day : at some time in the future : SOMEDAY ▪ *Some day* I may be rich enough to own two houses. ▪ I'd like to return there *some day*.

take each day as it comes *or* ***take one day at a time*** *or* ***take it/things one day at a time*** : to deal with each day's problems as they come instead of worrying about the future ▪ There's no way to know what the future will bring, so just *take each day as it comes* and hope for the best. ▪ *Take one day at a time* and don't expect things to change overnight. ▪ It's important to *take things one day at a time* so you don't feel too overwhelmed.

the other day see [1]OTHER

these days : at the present time ▪ It seems that everyone has

a cell phone *these days*. [=*nowadays*] ▪ What kind of music are you listening to *these days*? ▪ *These days*, she has a very busy social life. ✧ The phrase ***one of these days*** means at some time in the future. ▪ *One of these days*, [=*one day*] I'm going to buy myself a boat.

those days : a period of time in the past ▪ Remember when we were kids and life was easy? Well, *those days* are gone. ▪ ***In those days***, women weren't allowed to own property. ▪ No one knew *in those days* what caused the disease. ✧ If it is ***(just) one of those days***, it is a day in which many bad or unpleasant things happen. ▪ It's *just one of those days* when everything seems to go wrong. ▪ I missed the bus and sprained my ankle; it was *one of those days* when nothing was going right.

to the day : to exactly a specified number of years ▪ It's been 100 years *to the day* since their great discovery. ▪ Soon after their wedding, almost a year *to the day*, they got divorced.

to this day : up to now : continuing until today ▪ *To this day*, I still don't know what happened. ▪ The belief persists *to this day*.

day•bed /'deɪˌbɛd/ *noun, pl* **-beds** [*count*] : a bed that is made to be used also as a seat or couch

day•break /'deɪˌbreɪk/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the time of day when sunlight first begins to appear ▪ She left at *daybreak* [=*dawn, the break of day*]

day care *noun* [*noncount*] : a place, program, or organization that takes care of children or sick adults during the day usually while their family members are at work ▪ She left work early to pick up her son from *day care*. — often used before another noun ▪ He works for/at a *day care* center.

[1]day•dream /'deɪˌdri:m/ *noun, pl* **-dreams** [*count*] : pleasant thoughts about your life or future that you have while you are awake ▪ I drifted off in a *daydream* during the class.

[2]daydream *verb* **-dreams**; **-dreamed**; **-dream•ing** [*no obj*] : to think pleasant thoughts about your life or future while you are awake ▪ Instead of studying, he spent the afternoon *daydreaming* about his vacation.

– **day•dream•er** *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

Day–Glo /'deɪˌgloʊ/ *trademark* — used for materials or colors that are very bright

day laborer *noun, pl* ~ **-ers** [*count*] : a person who is hired for a day or more to do work that usually does not require special skills ▪ They hire *day laborers* to pick the apples.

day•light /'deɪˌlaɪt/ *noun, pl* **-lights**

1 [*noncount*] : the light of the sun and sky during the day : the natural light of day ▪ Open up the curtains and let some *daylight* into the room. ▪ As *daylight* fades into darkness, everyone returns to their homes. ▪ For pictures taken in *daylight*, use a different film. ▪ We could see *daylight* through the cracks in the wall. ▪ They stole my car ***in broad daylight*** [=during the day; without darkness to hide them] ▪ Some of the stuff in that closet hasn't ***seen daylight*** [=*seen the light of day*] since the 1970s.

2 [*noncount*] **a** : the time of day when the sky is light ▪ It's almost *daylight*. [=*daytime*] ▪ during the hours of *daylight* = during ***daylight hours*** **b** : the time of day when sunlight first begins to appear ▪ I arrived before *daylight*. [=*dawn, daybreak*] ▪ The accident happened just after *daylight*.

3 [*noncount*] *informal* : distance or difference *between* people or things ▪ They said there was no *daylight between* the two governments' positions. ▪ The team has won five straight games to ***put some daylight between*** themselves and their nearest rivals. [=to gain a larger lead over their nearest rivals]

4 *daylights* [*plural*] *informal* ✧ To ***scare/frighten the (living) daylights out of*** someone is to frighten someone very much. ▪ You scared *the daylights out of* me! ✧ To ***beat/kick/knock the (living) daylights out of*** someone is to hit or kick someone very badly. ▪ They beat *the daylights out of* that guy.

daylight saving time *noun* [*noncount*] *US* : a period of the year between spring and fall when clocks in the U.S. are set one hour ahead of standard time — called also *daylight savings time*; compare BRITISH SUMMER TIME

day•lily /'deɪˌlɪli/ *noun, pl* **-lilies** [*count*] : a kind of plant that has long thin leaves and usually yellow or orange flowers that bloom for a short time

day•long /'deɪˌlɑ:ŋ/ *adj* : lasting an entire day ▪ a *daylong* tour of the city

day one *or* **Day One** *noun* [*singular*] : the first day or very beginning of something ▪ We've known this about the project since/from *Day One*. ▪ The new governor will start implementing these changes on *day one*. [=the first day of the governor's term]

day•pack /'deɪˌpæk/ *noun, pl* **-packs** [*count*] : a bag for carrying things that has two shoulder straps and is carried on the back : a usually small backpack — see picture at CAMPING

day•room /'deɪˌru:m/ *noun, pl* **-rooms** [*count*] : a room in a hospital, prison, etc., where people can watch television, talk, etc.

days /'deɪz/ *adv, chiefly US* : during the day : in the daytime ▪ She works *days* and goes to school nights. — compare NIGHTS

day•time /'deɪˌtaɪm/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 : the time of day when the sky is light ▪ These animals are active during the *daytime*. ▪ *daytime* [=*daylight*] hours

2 : television that is shown during the day ▪ It's the best new show on *daytime*. — usually used before another noun ▪ *daytime* talk shows ▪ *daytime* TV

day–to–day /'deɪtəˌdeɪ/ *adj, always used before a noun*

1 : done or happening every day ▪ She is in charge of the company's *day-to-day* operations. ▪ *day-to-day* activities ▪ Little is known about his *day-to-day* [=*everyday*] life. ▪ our *day-to-day* problems/concerns/worries ▪ people who use computers ***on a day-to-day basis*** [=every day]

2 : preparing for one day at a time without thinking about the future ▪ He had been living a *day-to-day* existence.

day trader *noun, pl* ~ **-ers** [*count*] : a person who tries to earn money by buying stocks and then selling them very quickly after they increase slightly in value

– **day trading** *noun* [*noncount*]

daze /'deɪz/ *noun* [*singular*] : a state in which someone (such as a person who has been surprised or injured) is not able to think or act normally — used in the phrase ***in a daze*** ▪ After the test, I spent the rest of the day *in a daze*. ▪ lost *in a daze*

dazed /'deɪzd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not able to think or act normally because you have been surprised, injured, etc. ▪ She was *dazed* and confused after being hit on the head with a golf ball. ▪ He had a *dazed* [=*stunned*] look on his face.

daz•zle /'dæzəl/ *verb* **daz•zles**; **daz•zled**; **daz•zling**

1 [+ *obj*] *of a bright light* : to cause (someone) to be unable to see for a short time ▪ He was *dazzled* [=*blinded*] by the camera flash.

2 : to greatly impress or surprise (someone) by being very attractive or exciting [+ *obj*] Elvis always *dazzled* his audiences. ▪ Visitors were *dazzled* by the mansion's ornate rooms. — often + *with* ▪ She *dazzled* us *with* her wit. [*no obj*] She truly *dazzles* in her live concerts. — see also RAZZLE-DAZZLE

– **dazzle** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the *dazzle* [=*sparkle*] of the diamonds – **daz•zler** *noun, pl* **daz•zlers** [*count*] ▪ He's a real *dazzler*. – **dazzling** *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ a *dazzling* array/variety of jewelry ▪ the most *dazzling* display of color ▪ her *dazzling* smile – **daz•zling•ly** *adv* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ Her teeth were *dazzlingly* white.

dB *abbr* decibel

DC *abbr* **1** direct current **2** *or* ***D.C.*** District of Columbia

D–day *noun* [*singular*] : a day on which something important is planned or expected to happen ▪ The day after Thanksgiving is *D-day* for many retail stores. ✧ *D-day* is most commonly used to refer to the specific date of June 6, 1944, when Allied forces began the invasion of France in World War II.

DDS *abbr* doctor of dental surgery

DDT /ˌdi:ˌdi:'ti:/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a poisonous chemical that was used especially in the past to protect plants from insects and that is now banned in the U.S.

DE *abbr* Delaware

de- *prefix*

1 : do the opposite of ▪ *de*code ▪ *de*activate

2 a : remove (a specified thing) from something ▪ *de*claw a cat ▪ *de*frost a windshield **b** : remove someone or something from something ▪ The king was *de*throned. **c** : leave or get off something ▪ *de*rail ▪ *de*plane

3 : reduce ▪ *de*value currency

dea•con /'di:kən/ *noun, pl* **-cons** [*count*]

1 : an official in some Christian churches whose rank is just below a priest

2 : a member of some Christian churches who has special duties

dea•con•ess /'di:kənəs/ *noun, pl* **-ess•es** [*count*] : a woman in some Christian churches who has special duties : a female deacon

de•ac•ti•vate /di'æktəˌveɪt/ *verb* **-vates**; **-vat•ed**; **-vating** [+ *obj*] : to make (something) no longer active or effective ▪ They were able to *deactivate* [=(more commonly) *dis-*

arm] the bomb. ▪ *deactivate* an alarm

dead /ˈdɛd/ *adj*

1 : no longer alive or living : no longer having life ▪ Her husband is *dead*. He died last year. ▪ She's been *dead* for over 10 years now. [=she died more than 10 years ago] ▪ a *dead* insect/bird/dog ▪ *dead* trees/leaves/skin ▪ the *dead* [=*lifeless*] bodies of the soldiers ▪ He was found *dead* in his apartment yesterday. ▪ He lay *dead* on the floor. ▪ The lost mountain climbers were believed/presumed *dead*. ▪ She shot him *dead*. [=she killed him by shooting him] ▪ When we found her, she was ***more dead than alive***. [=almost dead; very close to death] ▪ The poster said that the robbers were wanted ***dead or alive***. ▪ He was ***as good as dead***. [=he was almost dead] ▪ She taught her dog to ***play dead***. [=to lie on its back and pretend to be dead] ***usage*** see DECEASED ✧ To ***leave (someone or something) for dead*** is to leave a person or animal that you know will probably die instead of trying to help. ▪ They hit the dog with their car and *left it for dead* on the side of the road. ▪ He had been badly beaten and *left for dead*.

2 a *dead•er; -est* [*or more* ~; *most* ~] **:** not able to feel or move ▪ My hand was *dead* [=*numb*] after holding the bag for so long. **b :** very tired ▪ Our legs were completely *dead* after hiking all day. ▪ I arrived home from work ***half dead***. [=*exhausted*] ▪ By the end of the day the workers were ***dead on their feet***. [=very tired but still standing, working, etc.] **c :** feeling no emotions ▪ After the war, I was emotionally *dead*. [=I was no longer able to feel happiness, sadness, etc.]

3 *informal* **:** certain to be punished or hurt ▪ I'm *dead* if I come in late for work again. ▪ If I ever get my hands on you, you're *dead*!

4 *of a machine or device* **:** no longer working especially because of not having electricity ▪ The car's battery is *dead*. ▪ *dead* electrical outlets ▪ a *dead* telephone line ▪ The phones ***went dead*** during the storm.

5 : no longer active or operating ▪ a *dead* [=*extinct*] volcano ▪ *dead* companies ▪ That plan is *dead* for now. We've started developing a new one. ▪ a *dead* deal

6 : naturally not living ▪ rocks and other *dead* [=*inanimate*] matter

7 *deader; -est* [*or more* ~; *most* ~] **:** lacking in activity or excitement ▪ The store's been *dead* [=*quiet*] all day. ▪ This party's completely *dead*. [=it is not lively] ▪ The audience was kind of *dead* tonight.

8 — used to describe a time when nothing is being said or done ▪ We played cards to fill in the *dead* time between the two performances.

9 : no longer performed or enjoyed ▪ He says that disco is *dead*. ▪ a *dead* art form

10 *of a language* **:** no longer spoken ▪ Latin is a *dead* language.

11 *sports* — used to describe a situation in which play stops during a game ▪ In American football, the ball is *dead* [=*out of play*] after an incomplete forward pass. ▪ The ball is *dead* if it goes beyond the white line.

12 a : complete, total, or absolute ▪ There was *dead* silence in the room. ▪ She spoke with *dead* certainty. ▪ I chased them at a *dead* run for three miles. ▪ The camera is a ***dead giveaway*** [=clearly shows] that you're a tourist. ▪ She fell to the floor in a ***dead faint***. ▪ The evening wasn't all I had hoped for, but is wasn't a ***dead loss***. [=it wasn't completely bad] ▪ He's ***a dead ringer for*** [=he looks exactly like] his father. ▪ (*Brit, informal*) They're ***a dead cert*** [=*a sure thing, a sure bet*] to win. [=they are certain to win] **b :** sudden and complete ▪ The bus came to a *dead* [=*abrupt*] stop.

13 : perfect or exact ▪ Her arrow hit the *dead* [=*very*] center of the target.

(as) dead as a doornail (*chiefly US*) *or chiefly Brit* ***(as) dead as a dodo*** *informal* — used to stress that someone or something is dead ▪ The old captain was *dead as a doornail*. — often used figuratively ▪ The negotiations are *as dead as a doornail*. ▪ The deal is *dead as a doornail*.

beat a dead horse *or* ***flog a dead horse*** see ¹HORSE

catch/see (someone) dead *informal* ✧ If you say that people ***wouldn't/won't catch/see you dead*** or that you ***wouldn't/won't be caught/seen dead*** doing something, you refuse to let others see you doing it because it would cause you to be embarrassed. ▪ I *wouldn't be caught/seen dead* wearing that hideous outfit. ▪ She *won't be caught dead* going to the movies with her obnoxious brother.

dead and buried *or* ***dead and gone*** **1 :** no longer living : DEAD ▪ He's been *dead and buried* for 50 years. ▪ relatives long *dead and gone* **2 :** no longer used or accepted ▪ Those old family traditions are *dead and buried*. ▪ That idea is *dead and buried*. ▪ The days of our childhood are *dead and gone*.

dead from the neck up *informal* **:** very stupid or foolish ▪ Most of his friends are *dead from the neck up*.

dead in the water *informal* **:** not making any progress : not having any chance of success ▪ The peace talks were *dead in the water*. ▪ His election campaign is *dead in the water*.

dead men tell no tales see TALE

dead on arrival **:** having died before getting to a hospital, emergency room, etc. ▪ The victim was *dead on arrival* at the hospital. — often used figuratively ▪ Some are saying that any new tax proposal would be *dead on arrival*. [=would have no chances of being approved]

dead to rights see ³RIGHT

dead to the world *informal* **:** sleeping very deeply ▪ You can't wake him up. He's *dead to the world*.

drop dead *informal* **1 :** to fall to the ground and die very suddenly ▪ She *dropped dead* while playing basketball. **2** — used as a rude way to tell someone to leave you alone ▪ "He asked you for help after being such a jerk? You should have told him to *drop dead*!" — see also DROP-DEAD

knock dead see ¹KNOCK

over my dead body see BODY

– dead•ness *noun* [*noncount*]

²dead *noun, pl* **dead**

1 [*plural*] **:** people who have died ▪ By the end of the war, there were over two million *dead*. — usually used with *the* ▪ the living and *the dead* ▪ His mother and brother were among *the dead*. ▪ the souls/spirits of *the dead*

2 *the dead* **:** the state of being dead — usually used in the phrases ***rise from the dead*** or ***come back from the dead*** or ***return from the dead*** to mean to become alive again after dying ▪ For a moment, I thought that my grandfather had *come back from the dead*. ▪ They believe that Jesus Christ *rose from the dead*.

3 [*noncount*] **:** the time in the middle of the night or winter ▪ She left ***in the dead of the night***. = She left ***at dead of night***. [=she left very late at night] ▪ He began his journey ***in the dead of winter***.

³dead *adv*

1 : completely or totally ▪ I think you're *dead* [=*absolutely, utterly*] wrong. ▪ She's *dead* certain that she can finish the job. ▪ We were *dead* tired by the end of the day. ▪ He's not joking. In fact, he's *dead* serious. ▪ They were both *dead* drunk and passed out on the floor. ▪ She finished the race ***dead last***. ▪ The mayor was ***dead set against*** [=strongly opposed to] the plan. ▪ She was ***dead set on*** going to college. [=she was completely certain she wanted to go to college]

2 : in a sudden and complete way ▪ He ***stopped dead in his tracks***. [=stopped suddenly]

3 : directly or exactly ▪ The island is ***dead ahead*** of us. [=the island is right in front of us] ▪ She hung the picture ***dead center*** on the wall. [=she hung the picture in the exact center of the wall]

dead air *noun* [*noncount*] **:** a period of silence especially during a radio broadcast ▪ After the commercial, there were a few seconds of *dead air* before the show continued.

dead•beat /ˈdɛdˌbi:t/ *noun, pl* **-beats** [*count*] *disapproving*

1 : a lazy person : a person who does not work ▪ His friends are just a bunch of *deadbeats*.

2 *chiefly US* **:** a person who does not pay money that is owed ▪ He was accused of being a *deadbeat*. — often used before another noun ▪ a ***deadbeat dad*** [=a father who owes money to his former wife to help raise their children but does not pay it]

dead bolt *noun, pl* **~ bolts** [*count*] *chiefly US* **:** a lock with a heavy sliding bar that is moved by turning a knob or key — called also (*Brit*) *deadlock, mortise lock*

dead duck *noun, pl* **~ ducks** [*count*] *informal + humorous* **:** a person or thing that is certain to fail, suffer, or be punished ▪ If they find out what I did, I'm a *dead duck*!

dead•en /ˈdɛdn̩/ *verb* **-ens; -ened; -en•ing** [+ *obj*] **:** to make (something) weaker or less noticeable ▪ All the different perfumes *deadened* [=*dulled*] her sense of smell. ▪ He took aspirin to *deaden* the pain. ▪ The new insulation will help to *deaden* the noise from the street outside.

– deadening *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ All the different perfumes had a *deadening* effect on her sense of smell.

dead end *noun, pl* **~ ends** [*count*]

1 : a street that ends instead of joining with another street so that there is only one way in and out of it ▪ We came to a *dead end* and had to turn around.

D

2 : a situation, plan, or way of doing something that leads to nothing further ▪ My career has hit a *dead end*. ▪ political *dead ends*

– **dead–end** /ˈdɛdˌɛnd/ *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ *dead-end* streets/roads ▪ He's stuck in a *dead-end* job. [=a job that does not pay you very much and does not give you a chance to get a better job] ▪ a *dead-end* relationship

dead•head /ˈdɛdˌhɛd/ *verb* **-heads**; **-head•ed**; **-head•ing** [+ *obj*] : to remove dead flowers from (a plant) ▪ She's out in the garden *deadheading* the rosebushes.

dead heat *noun, pl* ~ **heats** [*count*] : a contest in which two or more competitors earn the same score or finish at the same time — usually singular ▪ The two horses finished in a *dead heat*. ▪ The election poll showed a statistical *dead heat*. [=showed that the two candidates were equally popular]

dead letter *noun, pl* ~ **-ters** [*count*]

1 : a letter that cannot be delivered or returned by the post office because of an incorrect address or other problem

2 : a law or agreement that has lost its force or authority — usually singular ▪ Unfortunately, the treaty is now a *dead letter* in this country.

dead•line /ˈdɛdˌlaɪn/ *noun, pl* **-lines** : a date or time when something must be finished : the last day, hour, or minute that something will be accepted [*count*] She worked on her composition right up until the *deadline*. ▪ We had to hurry to meet/make the *deadline*. ▪ We missed the *deadline*. ▪ The project was completed a week past its *deadline*. ▪ The *deadline* for submitting college applications is April 19th. ▪ They're working under/with a *deadline*. [*noncount*] They're working ***under deadline***.

[1]dead•lock /ˈdɛdˌlɑːk/ *noun, pl* **-locks** [*count*]

1 : a situation in which an agreement cannot be made : a situation in which ending a disagreement is impossible because neither side will give up something that it wants ▪ The jury was unable to break/end the *deadlock*. [=unable to agree on a verdict] ▪ City councilors reached a *deadlock* over the law.

2 *US* : a situation in which players, teams, etc., have the same score : TIE ▪ His goal broke a 3–3 *deadlock*.

3 *Brit* : DEAD BOLT

[2]deadlock *verb* **-locks**; **-locked**; **-lock•ing**

1 [*no obj*] : to be unable to end a disagreement ▪ The jury *deadlocked* [=failed to agree on a verdict] after three days of deliberations.

2 *US* : to have the same number of points, votes, etc., as your opponent [*no obj*] The two teams *deadlocked* [=*tied*] in a scoreless match. [+ *obj*] Her home run *deadlocked* [=*tied*] the game at 3–3.

– **deadlocked** *adj* ▪ City councilors are *deadlocked* over the budget. ▪ a *deadlocked* jury ▪ a *deadlocked* game

[1]dead•ly /ˈdɛdli/ *adj* **dead•li•er**; **-est** [*or more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : causing or able to cause death ▪ *deadly* weapons ▪ the world's most *deadly* snake ▪ a more *deadly* form of the disease ▪ They launched a *deadly* attack. ▪ Officers are allowed to use ***deadly force*** if necessary. — compare DEATHLY

2 : extremely accurate and effective ▪ She shoots with *deadly* accuracy. ▪ a basketball player with *deadly* aim

3 *always used before a noun* : extreme or complete ▪ A *deadly* silence followed his question. ▪ The two gang leaders are *deadly* enemies. ▪ He spoke with *deadly* seriousness.

4 *informal* : very boring ▪ The lecture was pretty *deadly*.

– **dead•li•ness** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the *deadliness* of the disease

synonyms DEADLY, MORTAL, FATAL, and LETHAL mean causing or able to cause death. DEADLY describes something that is very dangerous and likely or able to cause death. ▪ *deadly* diseases ▪ *deadly* weapons MORTAL describes a wound or injury that has already caused death or will soon cause death. ▪ She received a *mortal* wound and died the next day. FATAL describes something that has actually caused a person's death. ▪ The disease is sometimes *fatal*. ▪ The wounds later proved to be *fatal*. LETHAL usually describes something like a poison that is used for the purpose of destroying life. ▪ a *lethal* gas

[2]deadly *adv* **deadlier**; **-est** [*or more* ~; *most* ~] : extremely or completely ▪ He's *deadly* [=*dead*] serious about finding another job. ▪ a *deadly* boring/dull meeting

deadly night•shade /-ˈnaɪtˌʃeɪd/ *noun, pl* ~ **-shades** [*count*] : BELLADONNA

deadly sin *noun, pl* ~ **sins** [*count*] : one of seven sins that in the Christian religion are considered to be very serious and are believed to cause other sins ✧ The seven deadly sins are usually considered to be pride, envy, lust, gluttony, greed, anger, and sloth.

dead meat *noun* [*noncount*] *informal + humorous* : a person or thing that is certain to fail, suffer, or be punished ▪ Politically, she's *dead meat*. [=her political career is ruined] ▪ If they find out what you did, you're *dead meat*!

dead–on /ˈdɛdˈɑːn/ *adj, somewhat informal* : exactly correct or accurate ▪ His impersonation of the President was *dead-on*. ▪ She was *dead-on* about what was going to happen. ▪ a *dead-on* analysis

[1]dead•pan /ˈdɛdˌpæn/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : showing no feeling or emotion — used to describe humor that is done or said in a serious way ▪ *deadpan* humor ▪ a *deadpan* comedian ▪ the *deadpan* delivery of his jokes

– **deadpan** *adv* ▪ "We're not interested," she said *deadpan*.

[2]deadpan *noun* [*noncount*] : a way of saying funny things without showing any feeling or emotion ▪ He tells the joke in his best *deadpan*. ▪ She's a master of *deadpan*. ▪ the art of *deadpan*

[3]deadpan *verb* **-pans**; **-panned**; **-pan•ning** [+ *obj*] : to say (something funny) in a way that shows no feeling or emotion ▪ "I went back to doing push-ups again, and this time I almost completed one," he *deadpanned*.

dead presidents *noun* [*plural*] *US slang* : U.S. money in the form of paper bills ▪ a briefcase full of *dead presidents*

dead weight *noun, pl* ~ **weights**

1 : something heavy that is being carried [*count*] The injured child was a *dead weight* in her arms. [*noncount*] carrying 150 pounds of *dead weight*

2 : someone or something that makes success more difficult [*count*] He was a *dead weight* on the team this year. [*noncount*] The company has a lot of *dead weight* [=*deadwood*] it needs to get rid of.

dead•wood /ˈdɛdˌwʊd/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 : people or things that are not useful or helpful in achieving a goal ▪ She's determined to get the *deadwood* out of the company. ▪ the government's bureaucratic *deadwood*

2 : dead wood on a tree ▪ a healthy tree with no *deadwood*

deaf /ˈdɛf/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : not able to hear ▪ He has been *deaf* since birth. ▪ a *deaf* child ▪ She's completely/partially *deaf* in her right ear. ▪ a disease that caused her to ***go deaf*** [=become unable to hear] ▪ He's *going* a little *deaf* so you'll have to speak up. ▪ (*informal*) My grandmother's a sweet old lady, but she's ***as deaf as a post***. [=she's very deaf] — see also TONE-DEAF

2 : not willing to listen to or consider something — usually + *to* ▪ They were *deaf to* all of our suggestions. ▪ *deaf to* reason

fall on deaf ears see [1]EAR

the deaf : deaf people : people who are not able to hear ▪ She goes to a school for *the deaf*.

turn a deaf ear see [1]EAR

– **deaf•ness** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ The disease can cause blindness and *deafness*.

deaf•en /ˈdɛfən/ *verb* **-ens**; **-ened**; **-en•ing** [+ *obj*] : to make (someone) unable to hear ▪ We were *deafened* by the explosion.

deafening *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : extremely loud ▪ The sign fell with a *deafening* [=*earsplitting*] crash. ▪ the *deafening* roar of the planes ▪ The music was *deafening*. ✧ If there is a ***deafening silence*** or the ***silence is deafening***, there is a lack of sound or speech that is very noticeable. ▪ The *silence was deafening* as they both sat there stubbornly refusing to apologize. ▪ As the controversy rages on, the *deafening silence* from the White House is drawing increasing criticism.

– **deaf•en•ing•ly** *adv* ▪ *deafeningly* loud music

deaf–mute /ˈdɛfˈmjuːt/ *noun, pl* **-mutes** [*count*] *old-fashioned + often offensive* : a deaf person who cannot speak

[1]deal /ˈdiːl/ *verb* **deals**; **dealt** /ˈdɛlt/; **deal•ing**

1 : to give cards to the players in a card game [*no obj*] It's your turn to *deal*. [+ *obj*] Each player is *dealt* five cards. ▪ She was *dealt* a full house. ▪ *dealing* out the cards for a game of poker — often used figuratively ▪ She was *dealt* a bad/cruel/terrible hand in life. [=many bad things happened to her throughout her life] ▪ You have to play the hand you're *dealt*. [=you must accept and deal with the things that happen to you in your life]

2 [+ *obj*] : to give (something or an amount of something) to someone ▪ The offending players were *dealt* harsh penalties. ▪ The team was *dealt* another loss last night. [=the team lost another game] — usually + *out* ▪ The teacher *dealt* [=*handed*] *out* three books to each of us. ▪ The author *deals* [=*doles*] *out* advice on all kinds of subjects.

3 : to buy and sell (drugs, art, etc.) as a business [+ *obj*] She got caught *dealing* drugs in school. [*no obj*] (*informal*) How long has he been *dealing*? [=dealing drugs] — see also *wheel and deal* at ²WHEEL

deal a blow ✧ To *deal a blow* to someone means to hit someone. ▪ (*formal*) He *dealt* his enemy *a* mighty *blow*. [=he hit his enemy hard] — usually used figuratively ▪ The factory closing will *deal a* serious/severe/devastating/crushing *blow* to the town's economy. ▪ Her career as an ice skater was ***dealt a fatal blow*** [=her career was ruined] when she broke her leg.

deal in [*phrasal verb*] **1** ***deal in (something)*** **a** : to buy and sell (something) as a business ▪ He *deals in* rare books. **b** : to use or be involved in (something) ▪ tales *dealing in* myth and mystery ▪ We don't *deal in* rumor or gossip. **2** ***deal (someone) in*** : to include someone in a card game ▪ "Do you want to play cards with us?" "Sure, *deal me in*."

deal with [*phrasal verb*] ***deal with (someone or something)*** **1** : to be about (something) : to have (something) as a subject ▪ The book *deals with* World War II. ▪ Her speech *dealt with* health care and the nation's economy. ▪ The film *deals with* some serious issues. **2** : to make business agreements with (someone) ▪ He *deals* fairly *with* all his customers. ▪ Their salespeople are very easy to *deal with*. **3** : to do something about (a person or thing that causes a problem or difficult situation) ▪ The government *dealt* harshly *with* the rebels. ▪ I'll *deal with* you later. ▪ Who's going to *deal with* this mess? ▪ I *dealt with* the problem myself. ▪ Can you suggest some ways of *dealing with* a difficult child? ▪ We weren't able/equipped/prepared to *deal with* such a large crowd of people. ▪ He needs to learn how to *deal with* his anger. **4** : to accept or try to accept (something that is true and cannot be changed) : to control your feelings about (something) ▪ She's still trying to *deal with* his death. ▪ I'm still *dealing with* the fact that we lost the game. ▪ The weather is bad, but we'll just have to *deal with* it.

– **deal·er** *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] ▪ a used car *dealer* ▪ drug *dealers*

²deal *noun, pl* **deals**

1 [*singular*] : a large number or amount : a lot — used in the phrases ***a good deal*** or ***a great deal*** ▪ It doesn't cost *a great deal* of money. [=doesn't cost much money] ▪ I spent *a good deal* of time [=a lot of time] thinking about it. ▪ It would mean *a great deal* to us if you would come. ▪ I learned *a great deal* from my mistakes. ▪ It's *a good deal* [=*much*] faster to go by bus. ▪ I felt *a great deal* better after the surgery. ▪ The town hasn't changed *a great deal* since we left.

2 [*count*] : the act of giving cards to each player in a card game — usually singular ▪ It's your *deal*. [=it's your turn to deal] ▪ I have time for one more *deal*. [=*hand, round*]

– compare ³DEAL

³deal *noun, pl* **deals**

1 [*count*] : an agreement between two or more people or groups that helps each in some way ▪ business *deals* ▪ I'll make you a *deal*. If you help me fix my flat tire, I'll buy you dinner. ▪ The company made/negotiated a new 10-million-dollar *deal* with the government. ▪ We were about to ***close/seal the deal*** [=make the agreement official] when we realized that there was a mistake in the contract. ▪ The two sides finally ***struck a deal*** [=came to an agreement] after weeks of negotiations. ▪ an ***arms deal*** [=an agreement to buy or sell weapons] between two countries ▪ The band got/landed/signed a ***record deal***. = The band ***cut a deal*** with the record company. ▪ She got a ***book deal*** with a major publisher. ▪ We were offered a ***package deal*** [=a single price for a set of items or services] that included plane tickets, hotel accommodations, and tickets to shows in the area. ▪ We think it's a ***fair/square deal***. [=a fair agreement] — see also DONE DEAL, SWEETHEART DEAL

2 [*singular*] : a way of treating someone ▪ He was going to take the promotion here but another company offered him a better *deal*. [=offered him more money, benefits, prestige, etc.] — see also BIG DEAL, RAW DEAL

3 [*count*] : a price that is fair or lower than the usual price ▪ We got a (good) *deal* on a new car. ▪ I think we can get a better *deal* somewhere else. ▪ Now that's a great *deal*!

4 ***the deal*** *informal* : basic information about a person, thing, or situation ▪ What's *the deal* [=*story, situation*] with that guy? ▪ Here's *the deal*. You're going to stay here while I go find help. ▪ What's *the deal* with those shoes you're wearing? [=Why are you wearing those shoes?]

one-shot deal : something that happens only one time ▪ This offer is a *one-shot deal*. ▪ We don't want this to be a *one-shot deal*. We hope to have the festival every year.

the real deal *informal* : something or someone that is real or genuine : a thing or person that is not a copy or imitation ▪ These diamonds aren't fake. They're *the real deal*. ▪ That guy looked so much like Elvis, I almost thought he was *the real deal*. [=I almost thought he was Elvis]

– compare ²DEAL

deal·er·ship /ˈdi:lə˞ˌʃɪp/ *noun, pl* **-ships** [*count*] : a business that sells a specified kind of product ▪ a car *dealership*

dealing *noun, pl* **-ings**

1 ***deal·ings*** [*plural*] : the actions that are a main part of the relationship between people, groups, organizations, etc. : social or business interactions ▪ There were reports of shady *dealings* between the two sides. — often + *with* ▪ They were honest in their *dealings with* other nations. ▪ her financial *dealings with* the company

2 [*noncount*] : a way of behaving or of doing business ▪ He has a reputation for fair *dealing*.

dealt *past tense and past participle of* ¹DEAL

dean /ˈdi:n/ *noun, pl* **deans** [*count*]

1 : a person who is in charge of one of the parts of a university (such as a college or school) ▪ She's the *dean* of the university's business school. ▪ the *dean* of liberal arts

2 : a person whose job is to give advice to the students in a college or high school and to make sure that they obey the school's rules ▪ the *dean* of students

3 *US* : a person who has more experience in or knowledge about a particular profession, subject, etc., than anyone or almost anyone ▪ She's considered the *dean* [=*doyen*] of American architecture.

4 : a Christian priest who is in charge of several other priests or churches

– **dean·ship** /ˈdi:nˌʃɪp/ *noun, pl* **-ships** [*count*] ▪ She recently resigned her *deanship*.

dean's list *noun, pl* ~ **lists** [*count*] *US* : a list of students at a college or university who have earned high grades — compare HONOR ROLL

¹dear /ˈdiə˞/ *adj* **dear·er; -est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : loved or valued very much ▪ He's a *dear* [=*precious*] friend of mine. ▪ my *dearest* friend ▪ Our neighbor is a *dear* old lady. — often + *to* ▪ My grandmother was very *dear to* me. ▪ The book is *dear to* the hearts of many young readers.

2 — used in writing to address someone ▪ *Dear* Sir or Madam ▪ *Dear* Jane

3 *chiefly Brit* : having a high price : EXPENSIVE ▪ Peaches are *dear* this time of year.

for dear life see ¹LIFE

²dear *adv* : with love and respect — used in the phrase ***hold dear*** ▪ She lost her family, her home—everything that she *held dear*. [=loved and valued most] ▪ the way of life they *hold dear* — see also *cost you dear* at ²COST

³dear *noun, pl* **dears** [*count*]

1 — used to address someone you love ▪ Hello, *dear*. [=*darling, sweetheart*] ▪ Yes, my *dear*? ▪ John, *dear*, what time will you be home?

2 : a kind and helpful person ▪ Be a *dear* and take this for me.

⁴dear *interj* — used especially to express surprise, fear, or disappointment ▪ Oh *dear*! What a mess! ▪ Oh, *dear* me! ▪ *Dear* God! What are we going to do?

dear·ly /ˈdiə˞li/ *adv* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : very much ▪ She loved him *dearly*. ▪ I would *dearly* love to see them again. ▪ He *dearly* wanted to believe that it was true. ▪ her *dearly* beloved husband [=her husband, whom she loved very much] — see also *dearly beloved* at BELOVED

2 : in a way that is difficult or severe ▪ The men paid *dearly* for their crimes. [=they were punished severely] — see also *cost you dearly* at ²COST

dearth /ˈdə˞θ/ *noun* [*singular*] *formal* : the state or condition of not having enough of something : LACK — + *of* ▪ The *dearth* [=*scarcity*] *of* jobs in the city forced many families to leave the area. ▪ a *dearth of* evidence

death /ˈdɛθ/ *noun, pl* **deaths**

1 a [*noncount*] : the end of life : the time when someone or something dies ▪ birth, life, and eventual *death* ▪ fear of *death* ▪ She is close to *death*. [=she will die soon] ▪ *death* threats ▪ The hostage managed to ***escape death***. [=avoid being killed] ▪ The newspaper did not report the ***cause of death***. ▪ She was convicted of murder and ***sentenced/condemned to death***. [=told that she would be killed as punishment] — see also BRAIN DEATH, *death knell* at KNELL **b** [*count*] : the ending of a particular person's life ▪ People around the world

mourned his *death*. ▪ She worked at the newspaper until her *death* at (age) 74. ▪ The accident resulted in two *deaths*. ▪ The number of *deaths* from cancer is rising. ▪ He died a violent/tragic *death*. ▪ There has been ***a death in the family***. ▪ She survived the plane crash and many years later died ***a natural death***. [=from natural causes; because she was old] ▪ The general ***met his death*** on the battlefield.

2 [*count*] **:** the permanent end of something that is not alive **:** the ruin or destruction of something ▪ the *death* of innocence ▪ the *death* of vaudeville ▪ the *death* of a marriage

3 ***Death*** [*noncount*] *literary* **:** the force that ends life and is often shown in art or literature as a skeleton ▪ *Death* could be seen lurking in the corner of the painting. ▪ when *Death* comes to take me away

a matter of life and death see [1]LIFE

at death's door **:** about to die **:** very sick and in danger of dying ▪ He is sick, but he's not *at death's door*.

be the death of **:** to cause (someone) to die ▪ I worry that his drug addiction will *be the death of* him. — often used figuratively ▪ Those kids ***will be the death of*** me! [=they worry and upset me very much]

catch your death (of cold) see [1]CATCH

like death warmed over (*US*) *or Brit* ***like death warmed up*** *informal* **:** very tired or sick ▪ We worked through the night, and by morning we looked *like death warmed over*.

put to death ✧ A person or animal that is *put to death* is killed at a scheduled time by someone who is legally allowed to do so. ▪ a serial killer who was *put to death* [=*executed*] for the murder of 28 people ▪ The dog that attacked the children was later *put to death*.

to death **1** — used to say how someone died or was killed ▪ He was shot/stabbed *to death*. ▪ They froze/starved *to death*. ▪ She drank herself *to death*. [=drank a lot of alcohol until it made her so sick that she died] **2 :** very much **:** to a great degree ▪ We were bored/scared *to death*. [=extremely bored/scared] ▪ That teacher works her students *to death*. [=she makes them work too hard] ▪ He's wonderful! I just love him *to death*! ▪ I'm ***sick to death*** of hearing about the scandal. [=I don't want to hear anything more about the scandal; I've heard too much about it] ▪ That song has been ***done to death***. [=many musicians have performed that song]

to the death **1 :** until someone is dead ▪ The warriors would fight *to the death*. ▪ a battle *to the death* **2 :** with all of your energy and effort ▪ Some parents do not want the school to be closed, and say they'll fight *to the death* for it.

– see also BLACK DEATH, KISS OF DEATH, SUDDEN DEATH

– **death·like** /ˈdɛθˌlaɪk/ *adj* ▪ a *deathlike* state

death·bed /ˈdɛθˌbɛd/ *noun, pl* **-beds**

on your deathbed **:** in the bed that you will soon die in ▪ She made a startling confession *on her deathbed*. [=just before she died] — often used figuratively to say that someone is very close to dying or very sick ▪ She's convinced that the old man is *on his deathbed*, but he looks healthy enough to me. ▪ I was so sick with the flu—practically *on my deathbed*.

– **deathbed** *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ a *deathbed* confession [=a confession made just before someone dies]

death benefit *noun, pl* **~ -fits** [*count*] **:** money that an insurance company pays to the family of someone who has died because that person had life insurance

death blow *noun, pl* **~ blows** [*count*]

1 : an act that kills a person or animal ▪ The general received his *death blow* in battle.

2 : an act or event that causes the end of something ▪ Recent declines in the economy have dealt the ailing company its final *death blow*.

death camp *noun, pl* **~ camps** [*count*] **:** a place where large numbers of prisoners are taken to be killed during a war **:** a concentration camp where many people are killed ▪ Nazi *death camps*

death certificate *noun, pl* **~ -cates** [*count*] **:** an official document that gives information about a person's death (such as when and how the death happened)

death–defying *adj* **:** very dangerous ▪ *death-defying* stunts

death duty *noun, pl* **~ duties** [*count*] *Brit* **:** ESTATE TAX

death grip *noun* [*singular*] **:** a very tight hold on something ▪ He drove straight through the storm, never loosening his *death grip* on the steering wheel. — often used figuratively to suggest that something has a powerful and harmful effect on something else ▪ The group is trying to release the *death grip* [=*hold*] that drugs have on their neighborhood.

death·less /ˈdɛθləs/ *adj* — used to describe something that will never end or be forgotten ▪ *deathless* [=*immortal*] fame — often used in a joking or ironic way to describe writing that is very bad ▪ The band's *deathless* lyrics still haunt the airwaves. ▪ *deathless* prose

[1]**death·ly** /ˈdɛθli/ *adj* **:** relating to or seeming like death **:** causing you to think of death ▪ a *deathly* fear ▪ A *deathly* silence filled the room. — compare [1]DEADLY

[2]**deathly** *adv*

1 : in a way that is close to death or dying ▪ He became *deathly* ill.

2 : in a way that makes you think of death ▪ The room was *deathly* [=*utterly*] quiet. ▪ She's *deathly* afraid of snakes.

death mask *noun, pl* **~ masks** [*count*] **:** a mask of a person's face that is created just after the person has died by pressing a substance over the face and leaving it there until it becomes hard

death penalty *noun*

the death penalty **:** death as a punishment given by a court of law for very serious crimes ▪ If convicted, he could face *the death penalty*. [=his punishment may be that he will be killed] ▪ She opposes *the death penalty*. [=*capital punishment*]

death rate *noun, pl* **~ rates** [*count*]

1 : a number that shows how many people died in a particular place or during a particular time ▪ There was a decline in the country's *death rate* after its health care improved. — compare BIRTHRATE

2 : the number of deaths from a specific cause in a particular area during a particular time period ▪ Lung cancer *death rates* are up. ▪ The *death rate* from accidents is rising.

death rattle *noun, pl* **~ rattles** [*count*] **:** a sound that is sometimes heard coming from a dying person's throat or chest — often used figuratively ▪ the *death rattle* of a dying industry

death ray *noun, pl* **~ rays** [*count*] *in stories* **:** a weapon that sends out a very strong beam of energy that usually looks like light and that is able to destroy almost anything

death row *noun* [*noncount*] **:** the part of a prison where prisoners who will be killed as punishment for their crimes live until they are killed ▪ *death row* inmates — often used after *on* ▪ He was *on death row* for 12 years before he was executed.

death sentence *noun, pl* **~ -tences** [*count*]

1 : the decision by a court of law that the punishment for someone's crime will be death ▪ She received a *death sentence* for the murders.

2 a : something (such as a disease) that is sure to cause death — usually singular ▪ With the new medicines available, AIDS is no longer an automatic *death sentence*. **b :** an act or event that ends something permanently — usually singular ▪ The cut in funding was a *death sentence* for the school's music program.

death's–head /ˈdɛθsˌhɛd/ *noun, pl* **-heads** [*count*] **:** a picture of the bones of a human head **:** a human skull used as a symbol for death ▪ a black shirt with a white *death's-head* on the back

death squad *noun, pl* **~ squads** [*count*] **:** a group of people who kill people who oppose a particular ruler or political group

death tax *noun, pl* **~ taxes** [*count*] *chiefly US* **:** ESTATE TAX

death throes *noun* [*plural*] **:** the violent movements and noises that are sometimes made by a person who is about to die ▪ The opera ends with the hero ***in his death throes***. — often used figuratively ▪ the *death throes* of a failing industry ▪ a sinking ship *in its death throes*

death toll *noun, pl* **~ tolls** [*count*] **:** the number of people who die in an accident, disaster, war, etc. — usually singular ▪ Three people who were injured in the accident have died, pushing the *death toll* up to 116. ▪ The virus's *death toll* is expected to rise.

death trap *noun, pl* **~ traps** [*count*] *informal* **:** a building, vehicle, etc., that is very dangerous and could cause someone's death ▪ That old elevator is a *death trap*. ▪ The factory was a *death trap* with too few exits for the workers to use in case of a fire.

death warrant *noun, pl* **~ -rants** [*count*] **:** an official document ordering a person to be killed as a punishment — often used figuratively ▪ The law suit was the company's *death warrant*. ▪ If you share needles with other drug users, you're ***signing your own death warrant***. [=you are doing something that will cause your own death]

death•watch /ˈdɛθˌwɑːʧ/ *noun, pl* **-watch•es** [*count*] : a situation in which people stay with someone who is dying while waiting for death to occur — usually singular ▪ Her family gathered for the *deathwatch*. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ It looked like his acting career was over, but this new movie suggests that it is time to call off the *deathwatch*. [=the actor may become successful again]

death wish *noun* [*singular*] : a desire to die ▪ Have you seen the way she drives? She must have a *death wish*.

deb /ˈdɛb/ *noun, pl* **debs** [*count*] *informal* : DEBUTANTE

de•ba•cle /diˈbɑːkəl, *Brit* deɪˈbɑːkəl/ *noun, pl* **de•ba•cles** [*count*] : a great disaster or complete failure ▪ After the *debacle* of his first novel, he had trouble getting a publisher for his next book. ▪ a military *debacle* ▪ an economic *debacle*

de•bar /dɪˈbɑɚ/ *verb* **-bars**; **-barred**; **-bar•ring** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to officially prevent (someone) from having or doing something — usually + *from* ▪ The law *debars* him *from* running for reelection. — often used as *(be) debarred* ▪ She *was debarred from* receiving the scholarship when her criminal record came to light.
– **de•bar•ment** /dɪˈbɑɚmənt/ *noun* [*noncount*]

de•bark /dɪˈbɑɚk/ *verb* **-barks**; **-barked**; **-bark•ing** [*no obj*] : to leave a ship or plane ▪ The passengers *debarked* [=(more commonly) *disembarked*] in Miami. — opposite EMBARK

de•base /dɪˈbeɪs/ *verb* **-bas•es**; **-based**; **-bas•ing** [+ *obj*] : to lower the value or reputation of (someone or something) : to make (someone or something) less respected ▪ The governor *debased* himself by lying to the public. ▪ The holiday has been *debased* by commercialism.
– **debased** *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] ▪ a *debased* form of entertainment ▪ a *debased* coin/currency – **de•base•ment** /dɪˈbeɪsmənt/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the *debasement* of women
– **debasing** *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] ▪ Those ads are *debasing* [=*insulting*] to women. ▪ a *debasing* comment

de•bat•able /dɪˈbeɪtəbəl/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] — used to say that something may or may not be true or real ▪ The benefit of the tax cuts is highly *debatable*. ▪ The vaccine is of *debatable* [=*questionable*] value—it has been known to make some people quite sick. ▪ Whether the report is entirely accurate is *debatable*.

[1]de•bate /dɪˈbeɪt/ *noun, pl* **-bates** : a discussion between people in which they express different opinions about something ✧ A debate can be an organized event, an informal discussion between two or more people, or a general discussion that involves many people. [*count*] The candidates participated in several *debates* before the election was held. ▪ Our polite chat about politics slowly turned into a heated *debate*. [=*argument*] ▪ At the center/core/heart of the *debate* [=*controversy*] is the question of responsibility. — often + *on, about*, or *over* ▪ The university is hosting a *debate on* gun control. ▪ current *debates on/about* the value of public schools ▪ The town held a *debate over* what to do about the recent traffic problems. ▪ The court decision sparked a raging/furious *debate over* property rights. [*noncount*] The meaning of the text has been the subject of considerable/intense/lively *debate* among scholars for many years. ▪ What topics will be ***under debate***? [=*debated*] — often + *on, about*, or *over* ▪ There was much *debate on/about/over* whether the new program was worth the cost. ▪ There's little *debate* [=*controversy*] *about* the health benefits of moderate exercise. ▪ The book traces centuries of *debate over* the origins of language. ✧ If something is ***a matter of debate*** or ***open to debate***, people have different ideas and opinions about it. ▪ Whether or not the tax cuts benefit the poor is still *a matter of debate*. [=*debatable*] ▪ The accuracy of the report is *open to debate*.

[2]debate *verb* **-bates**; **-bat•ed**; **-bat•ing**
1 [+ *obj*] : to discuss (something) with people whose opinions are different from your own ▪ Scholars have been *debating* the meaning of the text for years. ▪ Whether or not the tax cuts benefit the lower classes is still hotly *debated* among economists. ▪ The energy bill is currently *being debated* in Congress.
2 : to compete against (someone) in a debate : to argue against another person's opinions as part of an organized event [+ *obj*] The President *debated* his challenger in front of a live audience on Tuesday. [*no obj*] The students *debated* for an hour. ▪ She was on the ***debating team*** [=a group that competes against other teams in formal debates] at school.
3 [+ *obj*] : to think about (something) in order to decide what to do ▪ I *debated* [=*considered*] moving to the city, but eventually decided against it. — often + *whether, what*, etc. ▪ I am still *debating* (with myself) *whether* to attend the wedding or not. ▪ She is still *debating what* to do.
– **de•bat•er** *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] ▪ He is one of the best *debaters* in on our school's team.

de•bauched /dɪˈbɑːʧt/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *formal* : behaving in an immoral way that involves drinking too much alcohol, taking drugs, having sex with many people, etc. ▪ a *debauched* poet ▪ a *debauched* society

de•bauch•ery /dɪˈbɑːʧəri/ *noun, pl* **-er•ies** *formal* : bad or immoral behavior that involves sex, drugs, alcohol, etc. [*noncount*] He later regretted the *debauchery* of his youth. ▪ drunken *debauchery* [*count*] He recalled the evening's *debaucheries* with regret.

de•bil•i•tate /dɪˈbɪləˌteɪt/ *verb* **-tates**; **-tat•ed**; **-tat•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* + *technical* : to make (someone or something) weak : to reduce the strength of (someone or something) ▪ The virus *debilitates* the body's immune system. — usually used as *(be) debilitated* ▪ His body *was debilitated* [=*weakened*] by the disease. ▪ The country's economy *has been debilitated* by years of civil war.
– **debilitating** *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] ▪ a *debilitating* condition/disease/illness ▪ The symptoms can be *debilitating*.
– **de•bil•i•ta•tion** /dɪˌbɪləˈteɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ physical *debilitation*

de•bil•i•ty /dɪˈbɪləti/ *noun, pl* **-ties** *formal* : physical weakness caused by illness or old age [*noncount*] The disease leads to *debility* but rarely kills. [*count*] the *debilities* of elderly people

[1]deb•it /ˈdɛbət/ *noun, pl* **-its** [*count*] : an amount of money that is taken from an account ▪ I forgot to enter some of the *debits* in my bank account register. ▪ The account's credits were added and the *debits* subtracted. ▪ a $30 *debit* for groceries — opposite CREDIT; see also DIRECT DEBIT
on the debit side **1** *chiefly Brit* : in the section of a financial record where debits are written ▪ Enter these amounts *on the debit side*. **2** — used when mentioning the things that you do not like about something ▪ *On the debit side*, there have been a number of complaints about noise from the restaurant.

[2]debit *verb* **-its**; **-it•ed**; **-it•ing** [+ *obj*] : to take money from (an account) ▪ The bank mistakenly *debited* my account $200! ▪ Your account will automatically be *debited* for the amount of your insurance bill every month. — opposite CREDIT

debit card *noun, pl* **~ cards** [*count*] : a small plastic card that is used to buy things by having the money to pay for them taken directly from your bank account — compare BANK CARD, CASH CARD, CREDIT CARD

deb•o•nair /ˌdɛbəˈneɚ/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *somewhat old-fashioned, of a man* : dressing and acting in an appealing and sophisticated way : fashionable, attractive, and confident ▪ a *debonair* man in a suit and top hat ▪ His handsome face and *debonair* [=*suave, urbane*] manner made him very popular with the ladies.

de•bone /diˈboʊn/ *verb* **-bones**; **-boned**; **-bon•ing** [+ *obj*] : to remove the bones from (something) : BONE ▪ Have the butcher *debone* the lamb for you. ▪ a *deboned* chicken breast

de•brief /diˈbriːf/ *verb* **-briefs**; **-briefed**; **-brief•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to officially question (someone) about a job that has been done or about an experience ▪ Police *debriefed* the hostages upon their return. ▪ The pilot was *debriefed* after his flight. — compare [3]BRIEF
– **debriefing** *noun* [*count*] the *debriefings* of hostages ▪ a full *debriefing* [*noncount*] The crew met for *debriefing*.

de•bris /dəˈbriː, *Brit* ˈdɛˌbriː/ *noun* [*noncount*]
1 : the pieces that are left after something has been destroyed ▪ After the earthquake, rescuers began digging through the *debris* in search of survivors. ▪ Everything was covered by dust and *debris*. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ She sifted through the *debris* of her broken marriage.
2 : things (such as broken pieces and old objects) that are lying where they fell or that have been left somewhere because they are not wanted ▪ The crew cleaned up cigarette butts and other *debris*. [=*trash, rubbish*]

debt /ˈdɛt/ *noun, pl* **debts**
1 [*count*] : an amount of money that you owe to a person, bank, company, etc. ▪ He is trying to pay off gambling *debts*. ▪ The company has run up huge *debts*. ▪ Their *debts* are piling up. ▪ She's finally paid off her mortgage *debt*. [=the money that she owed the bank to pay for her house] ▪ the nation's growing ***foreign debt*** [=the amount of money that a country owes other countries] ▪ Most of his debts are ***consumer***

debts [=most of his debts are from buying things at stores] — see also NATIONAL DEBT

2 [*noncount*] : the state of owing money to someone or something ▪ He is drowning in a sea of *debt*. [=he owes a very large amount of money] ▪ a mountain of *debt* ▪ He's been working three jobs in an attempt to get ***out of debt*** ▪ The company was ***in debt*** but is now turning a profit. ▪ I am deep/heavily *in debt*. ▪ I'm thousands of dollars *in debt*. ▪ She went ***into debt*** to pay for college. ▪ I'm worried that we will fall *into debt*. ▪ banks with millions of dollars of ***bad debt*** [=banks that have loaned millions of dollars that will not be repaid] ▪ a ***debt-ridden*** country [=a country with more debt than it can pay]

3 [*count*] : the fact that you have been influenced or helped by someone or something — usually singular ▪ The photographer has acknowledged a/his *debt* to Andy Warhol. [=the photographer has said that his work was influenced by the photographs made by Andy Warhol]

debt to society — used in phrases like ***pay your debt to society*** to refer to being punished for committing a crime ▪ after 10 years in prison, he has *paid his debt to society* and is a free man.

in someone's debt ✧ If you are *in someone's debt*, you are very thankful for something that someone has done for you. ▪ I am *in your debt* for your help and support.

owe a debt of gratitude/thanks to : to have a good reason to be very grateful to (someone) ▪ The whole town *owes a debt of gratitude to* the people who organized the parade.

debt•or /ˈdɛtɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ors** [*count*] : a person, organization, government, etc., that owes money ▪ The *debtor* agrees to pay the debt over a three-year period. — opposite CREDITOR

de•bug /diˈbʌg/ *verb* **-bugs**; **-bugged**; **-bug•ging** [+ *obj*] *technical* : to remove the mistakes from (something, such as a computer program) ▪ She's been hired to write and *debug* computer programs.

de•bunk /diˈbʌŋk/ *verb* **-bunks**; **-bunked**; **-bunk•ing** [+ *obj*] : to show that something (such as a belief or theory) is not true : to show the falseness of (a story, idea, statement, etc.) ▪ The article *debunks* the notion that life exists on Mars. ▪ The results of the study *debunk* his theory.

– **de•bunk•er** *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] ▪ *debunkers* of the myth

[1]de•but /ˈdeɪˌbju:/ *noun, pl* **-buts** [*count*] : the first time an actor, musician, athlete, etc., does something in public or for the public ▪ my *debut* as a pianist ▪ He made his singing *debut* at a very young age. ▪ She is making her television/film *debut*. — sometimes used to refer to the first appearance of a product, sport, event, etc. ▪ the *debut* of a new car ▪ The sport's Olympic *debut* took place in 1980. — often used before another noun ▪ her *debut* album/film/novel

[2]debut *verb* **de•buts**; **de•buted**; **de•but•ing**

1 [*no obj*] : to appear in public for the first time : to make a debut ▪ The singer *debuted* 10 years ago, at the age of 15. ▪ The car *debuted* 30 years ago. ▪ The computer will soon be *debuting* in stores across the country.

2 [+ *obj*] : to show or provide (something, such as a product, television show, etc.) to the public for the first time ▪ The network *debuts* a new sitcom tonight.

deb•u•tante /ˈdɛbjʊˌtɑ:nt/ *noun, pl* **-tantes** [*count*] : a young upper-class woman who has begun going to special parties where she will meet and be seen by other people from the upper class

Dec. *abbr* December ▪ *Dec.* 1, 2004

de•cade /ˈdɛˌkeɪd/ *noun, pl* **-cades** [*count*] : a period of 10 years ▪ The war lasted nearly a *decade*. ▪ a *decade* of drought [=a drought that lasted 10 years] ▪ The bridge was built a *decade* ago. ; *especially* : a 10-year period beginning with a year ending in 0 ▪ The *decade* of the 1920s runs from January 1, 1920 to December 31, 1929. ▪ the first *decade* of the 21st century ▪ There have been a lot of changes during/in/over the past two *decades*.

dec•a•dence /ˈdɛkədəns/ *noun* [*noncount*] *disapproving* : behavior that shows low morals and a great love of pleasure, money, fame, etc. ▪ The book condemns the *decadence* of modern society. ▪ Western *decadence*

dec•a•dent /ˈdɛkədənt/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 *disapproving* **a** : having low morals and a great love of pleasure, money, fame, etc. ▪ The book condemns some of society's wealthiest members as *decadent* fools. **b** : attractive to people of low morals who are only interested in pleasure ▪ the city's *decadent* nightclubs

2 : extremely pleasing ▪ a wealthy and *decadent* lifestyle ▪ the restaurant's *decadent* desserts ▪ rich, *decadent* pastries ▪ a *decadent* hotel room, complete with a hot tub ▪ We relaxed in *decadent* luxury.

– **dec•a•dent•ly** *adv* ▪ *decadently* rich pastries

de•caf /ˈdi:ˌkæf/ *noun, pl* **-cafs** : coffee that does not contain caffeine : decaffeinated coffee [*noncount*] Would you like regular coffee or *decaf*? [*count*] Can I have a *decaf*, please? ▪ They ordered two *decafs* and a regular (coffee).

de•caf•fein•at•ed /diˈkæfəˌneɪtəd/ *adj* : not containing caffeine : having the caffeine removed ▪ *decaffeinated* coffee/tea ▪ *decaffeinated* cola

de•cal /ˈdi:ˌkæl/ *noun, pl* **-cals** [*count*] *US* : a picture, design, or label that will stick to the surface on which it is placed after the paper on the back of it is removed ▪ She put some new *decals* [=*stickers*, (*Brit*) *transfers*] on her car window.

de•camp /dɪˈkæmp/ *verb* **-camps**; **-camped**; **-camp•ing** [*no obj*] : to leave a place suddenly and secretly ▪ She took the papers and *decamped*. ▪ He *decamped* to/for Europe soon after news of the scandal broke.

de•cant /dɪˈkænt/ *verb* **-cants**; **-cant•ed**; **-cant•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to pour (a liquid, especially wine) from one container into another ▪ The bottles were uncorked and the wine was *decanted* an hour before the meal.

de•cant•er /dɪˈkæntɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a special glass bottle into which wine, whiskey, etc., is poured from its original bottle and from which it is served ▪ The waiter served us wine from an elegant *decanter*. ▪ a *decanter* of port

de•cap•i•tate /dɪˈkæpəˌteɪt/ *verb* **-tates**; **-tat•ed**; **-tat•ing** [+ *obj*] : to cut off the head of (a person or animal) ▪ Hundreds were *decapitated* [=*beheaded*] by the guillotine. ▪ the monster's *decapitated* body

– **de•cap•i•ta•tion** /dɪˌkæpəˈteɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*noncount*] death by *decapitation* [*count*] gruesome *decapitations*

de•cath•lon /dɪˈkæθlən/ *noun, pl* **-lons** [*count*] : a sports contest for men that consists of 10 different events ▪ the Olympic *decathlon*

– **de•cath•lete** /dɪˈkæθˌli:t/ *noun, pl* **-letes** [*count*]

[1]de•cay /dɪˈkeɪ/ *verb* **-cays**; **-cayed**; **-cay•ing**

1 : to be slowly destroyed by natural processes : to be slowly broken down by the natural processes that destroy a dead plant or body [*no obj*] Tomatoes that fall off the vine will *decay* [=*rot*] on the ground. ▪ a dead fish *decaying* [=*decomposing*] on the beach ▪ the smell of *decaying/decayed* rubbish [+ *obj*] dead plants and leaves *decayed* by bacteria

2 [*no obj*] : to slowly lose strength, health, etc. ▪ She believes that the moral fiber of our society is *decaying*. ▪ our *decaying* public school system ▪ His mind/health is beginning to *decay*. [=*decline*]

3 [*no obj*] *of a building, area, etc.* : to go slowly from a bad condition to a worse condition : to slowly enter a state of ruin ▪ The city's neighborhoods are *decaying*.

synonyms DECAY, DECOMPOSE, ROT, PUTREFY, and SPOIL mean to slowly fall apart and become destroyed by natural processes. DECAY is the most general of these terms. It often suggests a slow change from a state of strength or perfection. ▪ a *decaying* mansion DECOMPOSE stresses that bacteria, worms, insects, etc., are destroying and breaking apart something that is dead. ▪ the animal's *decomposing* flesh ▪ Eventually the vegetation *decomposes* and is mixed with dirt and used in the garden. ROT is a close synonym of DECOMPOSE but also suggests a bad smell. ▪ Flies swarmed around the *rotting* fruit. PUTREFY is very similar to DECOMPOSE and ROT but is used to refer to dead people or animals and not to plants. It suggests that something is extremely unpleasant to see or smell. ▪ corpses *putrefying* on the battlefield SPOIL is used when talking about food that is no longer safe to eat. ▪ The meat will *spoil* if it is not kept cold.

[2]decay *noun* [*noncount*] : the process or result of decaying: such as **a** : the process or result of being slowly destroyed by natural processes ▪ the *decay* of dead plants and leaves ▪ tooth *decay* **b** : the slow loss of strength, health, etc. ▪ She writes about the moral *decay* of our society. ▪ We're concerned about the *decay* [=*deterioration*] of our public school system. ▪ the patient's physical and mental *decay* **c** *of a building, area, etc.* : the process or result of going slowly from a bad condition to a worse condition ▪ The city's neighborhoods are in slow *decay*. ▪ She wants to restore an old theater that is ***falling into decay***. [=falling into ruin]

de•cease /dɪˈsi:s/ *noun* [*noncount*] *formal* : the death of a

person ▪ He had many debts at the time of his *decease*.

de•ceased *adj* : no longer living ▪ Both his parents are *deceased*. [=*dead*] ▪ his *deceased* aunt

> ***usage*** *Dead* and *deceased* both mean "no longer living," but *deceased* is a gentler term, and people often use it when the person who died was close to them or when they are talking to someone who knew the person who died. ▪ My mother is *deceased*. ▪ Is your grandfather alive or *deceased*?

the deceased *formal* : a dead person or dead people ▪ a relative of *the deceased* ▪ Three of *the deceased* are being buried today.

de•ce•dent /dɪ'si:dn̩t/ *noun, pl* **-dents** [*count*] *US, law* : a dead person ▪ a tax on the estate of the *decedent*

de•ceit /dɪ'si:t/ *noun, pl* **-ceits** : dishonest behavior : behavior that is meant to fool or trick someone [*noncount*] He achieved his goals through lies and (a web of) *deceit*. [=*deception*] ▪ I began to suspect them of *deceit*. [=*deceitfulness*] [*count*] We were angry when we discovered that her excuse was really a *deceit*. [=*lie*]

de•ceit•ful /dɪ'si:tfəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not honest : making or trying to make someone believe something that is not true ▪ a scheming, *deceitful* [=*dishonest*] person ▪ a *deceitful* answer ▪ *deceitful* [=*deceiving*] advertisements
– **de•ceit•ful•ly** *adv* ▪ He acted *deceitfully*. – **de•ceit•ful•ness** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ He was surprised by the child's *deceitfulness*.

de•ceive /dɪ'si:v/ *verb* **-ceives**; **-ceived**; **-ceiv•ing** : to make (someone) believe something that is not true [+ *obj*] Her parents punished her for trying to *deceive* them. ▪ The wall doesn't look real—it wouldn't *deceive* [=*fool*] a child. ▪ He was accused of *deceiving* the customer about the condition of the car. ▪ People who think they can eat whatever they want without harming their health are *deceiving* themselves. ▪ Unless my eyes *deceive* me [=unless I am mistaken about what I am seeing], there are no children in the room. ▪ It's no use ***deceiving ourselves into thinking*** [=it will not be helpful if we pretend] that everything will be fine. [*no obj*] Remember that appearances can *deceive*—just because something looks good doesn't mean it is good.
– **de•ceiv•er** *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] – **de•ceiv•ing** *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ Appearances can be very *deceiving*. [=*deceptive*] – **de•ceiv•ing•ly** /dɪ'si:vɪŋli/ *adv* ▪ The game is *deceivingly* [=*deceptively*] easy.

de•cel•er•ate /di'sɛlə,reɪt/ *verb* **-ates**; **-at•ed**; **-at•ing**
1 : to move slower : to lose speed [*no obj*] He *decelerated* [=*slowed down*] as he neared the exit on the highway. ▪ The car slowly *decelerated*. [+ *obj*] *decelerate* an airplane/automobile — opposite ACCELERATE
2 : to cause (something) to happen more slowly [+ *obj*] *decelerate* soil erosion ▪ *decelerate* economic growth [*no obj*] Economic growth is *decelerating*. [=happening more slowly]
– **de•cel•er•a•tion** /di,sɛlə'reɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the airplane's *deceleration* ▪ the *deceleration* of soil erosion

De•cem•ber /dɪ'sɛmbɚ/ *noun, pl* **-bers** : the 12th and last month of the year [*noncount*] Her birthday is in late *December*. ▪ The first snow of that winter came in (early/mid-/late) *December*. ▪ The party is on the 10th of *December*. = (*US*) The party is on *December* 10th. = The party is on *December* the 10th. [*count*] This *December* was not as cold as the past few *Decembers* have been. — abbr. *Dec.*

de•cen•cy /'di:sn̩si/ *noun, pl* **-cies**
1 [*noncount*] : polite, moral, and honest behavior and attitudes that show respect for other people ▪ *Decency*, not fear of punishment, caused them to do the right thing. ▪ Their behavior goes beyond the bounds of *decency*. [=it is not decent or acceptable] ▪ Sending aid to the victims was simply a matter of ***common decency***. ▪ If you're going to be late, please ***have the decency to*** call and let me know. ▪ Have you no ***sense of decency***?
2 *decencies* [*plural*] *formal* : the behaviors that people in a society consider to be proper or acceptable ▪ He had been taught to observe the ordinary *decencies*.

de•cent /'di:sn̩t/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]
1 a : polite, moral, and honest ▪ I don't understand how so *decent* a person could be involved with this kind of crime. ▪ *decent*, hardworking people ▪ He is a *decent* guy who would help anyone in need. ▪ You need to do the *decent* thing and tell her what happened. **b** *somewhat informal* : showing kindness : seeming to care about the feelings or problems of other people ▪ It's really *decent* [=*nice, thoughtful*] of them to help us like this. ▪ I apologized for the damage to his car, and he was pretty *decent* [=*understanding*] about it.
2 : good enough but not the best : adequate or acceptable ▪ She's a *decent* [=*fairly good*] tennis player. ▪ They can't afford *decent* [=*adequate*] housing. ▪ Are there any *decent* schools in that area? ▪ They served us a *decent* (enough) meal. ▪ I've got to get some *decent* clothes. ▪ He makes a *decent* living. = He has a job making/earning *decent* money. ▪ a ***halfway decent*** [=*pretty good*] movie
3 : appropriate or suitable ▪ I know you've got a lot to do, but try to get to bed at a *decent* hour. [=at a time that is not too late at night] ▪ We were asked to wait a *decent* interval [=wait for an appropriate amount of time] before making the announcement. — opposite INDECENT
4 : not using language that offends people : not including behavior or ideas that people commonly find offensive ▪ Please keep your jokes *decent*—there are children in the room. — opposite INDECENT
5 *informal* : wearing enough clothes : wearing clothes that cover enough of your body so that you are not embarrassed if someone sees you ▪ I can't come to the door right now—I'm not *decent*. Wait a minute, OK? ▪ Can I come in? Are you *decent*?
– **de•cent•ly** *adv* ▪ He's fair and always treats everyone *decently*. ▪ The book is selling *decently* [=*fairly well*; *well enough*] but we were expecting it to sell better. ▪ *decently* dressed

de•cen•tral•ize *also Brit* **de•cen•tral•ise** /di'sɛntrə,laɪz/ *verb* **-iz•es**; **-ized**; **-iz•ing** : to change (something) by taking control, power, etc., from one person or group and giving it to many people or groups throughout an area [+ *obj*] The plan is to *decentralize* the school system and give each district control over its own policies. ▪ a highly *decentralized* organization [=an organization in which many people have power] [*no obj*] The organization has decided to *decentralize*.
– **de•cen•tral•i•za•tion** *also Brit* **de•cen•tral•i•sa•tion** /di,sɛntrələ'zeɪʃən, *Brit* di,sɛntrə,laɪ'zeɪʃən/ *noun* [*singular*] a *decentralization* of power [*noncount*] government *decentralization*

de•cep•tion /dɪ'sɛpʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**
1 [*noncount*] : the act of making someone believe something that is not true : the act of deceiving someone ▪ She accuses the company of willful *deception* in its advertising. ▪ The article describes the government's use of *deception* [=*deceit*] to gain public support for the program. ▪ She ***practiced deception*** on her unsuspecting clients. [=she deceived them]
2 [*count*] : an act or statement intended to make people believe something that is not true ▪ His many *deceptions* did not become known until years after he died. ▪ It was a misunderstanding on her part, not a deliberate *deception* on his (part). [=he didn't try to deceive her or lie to her] ▪ a clever *deception* [=*trick*] — see also SELF-DECEPTION

de•cep•tive /dɪ'sɛptɪv/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : intended to make someone believe something that is not true ▪ The article accuses the company of *deceptive* [=*misleading*] advertising. ▪ The low price is *deceptive*. [=*deceiving, misleading*] Many fees are added to it before the purchase is complete.
2 : likely to make someone believe something that is not true ▪ the *deceptive* simplicity of the lyrics [=the lyrics are not as simple as they seem] ▪ Don't buy the car without driving it first—appearances can be *deceptive*. [=something can look much better than it actually is]
– **de•cep•tive•ly** *adv* ▪ *deceptively* simple lyrics ▪ *deceptively* low prices

deci•bel /'dɛsə,bɛl/ *noun, pl* **-bels** [*count*] *technical* : a unit for measuring how loud a sound is ▪ a rock concert blasting music at 110 *decibels* ▪ suffered hearing loss from repeated exposure to high *decibels* [=to loud sounds] — abbr. *dB*

de•cide /dɪ'saɪd/ *verb* **-cides**; **-cid•ed**; **-cid•ing**
1 a : to make a choice about (something) : to choose (something) after thinking about it [+ *obj*] He *decided* that dinner would be at 7 o'clock, and asked guests to arrive at 6. — often followed by *to* + *verb* ▪ She *decided to go* along with us. ▪ They have *decided* not *to leave*. — often + *what, where, whether, if*, etc. ▪ Have you *decided what* you'd like for breakfast? ▪ He is having trouble *deciding which* school to go to. ▪ She says she'll *decide* by January *whether* (or not) to run for office. ▪ We are *deciding if* we should stay. [*no obj*] She is having difficulty *deciding* about the offer. ▪ I *decided* in favor of the other candidate. [=I chose the other candidate] ▪ Vot-

ers must ***decide between*** the two candidates. [=voters must choose one or the other candidate] ▪ You have to ***decide for yourself***. [=you are the only one who can decide] ▪ I ***decided against*** telling her. [=I decided not to tell her] **b :** to choose whether or not to believe (something) after thinking about it **:** to reach a conclusion about (something) because of evidence [+ *obj*] They *decided* that he was right. ▪ I am trying to *decide* if it's warm enough for swimming. [*no obj*] "Do you think she is telling the truth?" "I'm not sure. I'm still trying to *decide*."

2 : to cause (something) to end in a particular way **:** to determine what the result of (something) will be [+ *obj*] A few hundred votes could *decide* the election. ▪ One blow *decided* the fight. ▪ This battle could very well *decide* the war. [*no obj*] Will the business be successful? Let the public *decide*. — often used as *deciding* ▪ the *deciding* game in the series [=the game that determines who wins the series] ▪ The vice president will cast the *deciding* vote.

3 *law* **:** to end (a court case) in a particular way **:** to make a judgment in a court of law [+ *obj*] The case will be *decided* by the Supreme Court. [*no obj*] The court ***decided against*** the defendant. [=the defendant was found guilty] ▪ The court *decided* in favor of the plaintiff. = (less commonly) The court ***decided for*** the plaintiff. [=the plaintiff won the case]

decide on/upon [*phrasal verb*] ***decide on/upon (something)*** **:** to choose (something) after thinking about the possible choices ▪ He *decided on* blue rather than green. ▪ We looked at all the cats in the pet store and finally *decided on* a little black-and-white one. ▪ I am having trouble *deciding on* a gift for them.

deciding factor **1 :** something that causes you to make a particular decision ▪ The *deciding factor* was cost. [=the decision was based on cost; the least expensive option was chosen] ▪ His lack of experience was the *deciding factor* in my decision not to hire him. **2 :** something that causes something to end a particular way ▪ His home run was the *deciding factor* in the game. [=his home run won the game]

decided *adj, always used before a noun* **:** clear and definite **:** easy to notice ▪ The team has a *decided* [=*clear, obvious*] advantage in this competition. ▪ The new paint on the house is a *decided* [=*definite*] improvement.

de•cid•ed•ly /dɪ'saɪdədli/ *adv*

1 : clearly and definitely **:** in a way that is easy to notice ▪ The phrases have *decidedly* different meanings. ▪ The movie received *decidedly* mixed reviews. [=received very good reviews and very bad reviews]

2 *chiefly Brit* **:** in a way that shows that you are certain **:** in a way that shows that you have no doubt ▪ She answered the question *decidedly*: "No, I will not lie for him."

de•cid•er /dɪ'saɪdɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] **:** the last part of a game or competition that will decide a winner — usually singular ▪ The series is tied 3–3, and the *decider* [=the last game of the series; the deciding game] will be played tonight.

de•cid•u•ous /dɪ'sɪʤəwəs/ *adj, of a tree, bush, etc.* **:** having leaves that fall off every year ▪ the bare branches of a *deciduous* tree in winter ▪ the region's *deciduous* forests [=forests that are made up of deciduous trees] ▪ *deciduous* and coniferous trees/forests

[1]dec•i•mal /'dɛsəməl/ *adj, mathematics* **:** based on the number 10 ▪ the *decimal* system ▪ a number with three ***decimal places*** [=a number with three digits that follow the decimal point; a number like 1.234 or .567] ▪ In the number 8.901, the 9 is in the first *decimal place*.

[2]decimal *noun, pl* **-mals** [*count*] *mathematics* **:** a number that is written with a dot between the part of the number that is equal to 1 or more and the part of the number that is less than 1 ▪ The number 67.398 is a *decimal*. It is equal to the whole number 67 plus the *decimal* .398. ▪ Seven-tenths written as a *decimal* is .7. Seven-tenths written as a fraction is 7/10. ▪ The *decimal* .2 is equal to the fraction 2/10. — called also *decimal fraction*

decimal point *noun, pl* **~ points** [*count*] *mathematics* **:** the dot (as in .678 or 3.678) that separates a whole number from tenths, hundredths, etc.

dec•i•mate /'dɛsəˌmeɪt/ *verb* **-mates; -mat•ed; -mat•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to destroy a large number of (plants, animals, people, etc.) ▪ This kind of moth is responsible for *decimating* thousands of trees in our town. — usually used as *(be) decimated* ▪ The bay's lobsters *have been decimated* by disease. ▪ The village/population *was decimated* by plague.

2 : to severely damage or destroy a large part of (something) ▪ Budget cuts have *decimated* public services in small towns. — usually used as *(be) decimated* ▪ The landscape *is decimated* by pollution. ▪ the company's *decimated* stock prices

– dec•i•ma•tion /ˌdɛsə'meɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*]

de•ci•pher /dɪ'saɪfɚ/ *verb* **-phers; -phered; -pher•ing** [+ *obj*] **:** to find the meaning of (something that is difficult to read or understand) ▪ *decipher* [=*decode*] a secret message ▪ The ancient scrolls were recently *deciphered*. [=*translated*] ▪ We spent hours trying to *decipher* [=*figure out*] the lyrics to the song. ▪ I couldn't *decipher* his sloppy handwriting.

– de•ci•pher•able /dɪ'saɪfərəbəl/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] ▪ barely *decipherable* handwriting **– de•ci•pher•ment** /dɪ'saɪfɚmənt/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the *decipherment* of the ancient scrolls

de•ci•sion /dɪ'sɪʒən/ *noun, pl* **-sions**

1 [*count*] **:** a choice that you make about something after thinking about it **:** the result of deciding ▪ She announced her *decision* to go to medical school. ▪ a big/controversial/final *decision* ▪ Have you ***made/reached a decision***? ▪ After weeks of deliberation, he finally ***came to a decision***. = After weeks of deliberation, he finally ***arrived at a decision***. ▪ He ***based his decision on*** facts, not emotions. ▪ She made a ***conscious decision*** to leave the painting unfinished. ▪ (*Brit*) The government has ***taken a decision*** to withdraw all troops. [=the government has made an important and official decision to withdraw all troops] ▪ an ***informed decision*** [=a decision based on facts or information] ▪ a ***split-second decision*** [=a decision that must be made in an instant] ✧ In informal spoken English, someone who says "***Decisions, decisions***" is having difficulty making a decision, usually about an unimportant matter. ▪ "*Decisions, decisions*. I can't decide which flavor of ice cream to get."

2 [*noncount*] *formal* **:** the ability to make choices quickly and confidently ▪ a leader of courage and *decision* [=*decisiveness*] ▪ We need someone who will act with *decision* even under pressure. — opposite INDECISION

3 [*count*] **a :** the particular end of a legal or official argument **:** a legal or official judgment ▪ The U.S. Supreme Court's 1954 *decision* brought an end to racial segregation in public schools. ▪ The Supreme Court ***handed down a 5–4 decision***. [=five members of the court voted one way, and the other four members voted the opposite way, and the side with the five votes won] ▪ The appeals court ***upheld the decision***. [=the appeals court agreed with the decision made earlier by a lower court] ▪ The appeals court ***overturned the decision***. [=the appeals court disagreed with the decision made earlier by a lower court] **b :** a report explaining why a legal or official judgment was made in a particular way ▪ the court's ten-page *decision*

4 [*noncount*] **:** the act of deciding something ▪ The moment of *decision* has come. You must decide. ▪ The judge has the power of *decision*. [=the judge has the power to make the decision]

decision–making *noun* [*noncount*] **:** the act or process of deciding something especially with a group of people ▪ The project will require some difficult *decision-making*. ▪ All members of the organization have a role in *decision-making*. — often used before another noun ▪ the company's *decision-making* process

de•ci•sive /dɪ'saɪsɪv/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*]

1 : able to make choices quickly and confidently ▪ You must be *decisive* and persistent to succeed in this competitive field. ▪ I stood there wondering what to do, but my sister was more *decisive* and immediately went to the phone. ▪ a *decisive* leader ▪ In emergency situations, one must be able to take ***decisive action***. [=to act quickly and with confidence] — opposite INDECISIVE

2 : causing something to end in a particular way **:** determining what the result of something will be ▪ She cast the *decisive* [=*deciding*] vote. ▪ The fight ended with a *decisive* blow. ▪ the *decisive* battle of the war ▪ The poverty of his childhood played a *decisive* role in his adult life. ▪ The meeting is seen as a ***decisive step*** toward a peace treaty. ✧ A ***decisive factor*** is a reason to make a particular choice or decision. ▪ The *decisive factor* [=*deciding factor*] was cost. ▪ His lack of experience was the *decisive factor* in my decision not to hire him.

3 : very clear and obvious ▪ a *decisive* victory/win/advantage

– de•ci•sive•ly *adv* ▪ You must be able to act *decisively* to succeed in this competitive field. ▪ She *decisively* rejected their proposal. **– de•ci•sive•ness** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ The job requires *decisiveness* [=*decision*] and persistence.

[1]deck /'dɛk/ *noun, pl* **decks**

1 : a flat surface that forms the main outside floor of a boat or ship [*count*] We stood on the *deck* and watched dolphins swim near the ship. [*noncount*] A number of passengers had come ***on deck***. ✧ When you are ***below deck*** or ***below decks***, you are in the section of a boat or ship that is under the deck. ▪ We went *below deck* to our cabin. ▪ I stowed my gear *below decks*. ✧ The phrase ***all hands on deck*** is used to call all people on a boat or ship to the deck to do work that must be done. ▪ We heard the captain shout "*All hands on deck*!" as waves crashed over the boat's bow.

2 [*count*] **a** : one of the levels on a bus, ship, etc. ▪ the lower/middle/upper *deck* ▪ a seat on the streetcar's top *deck* ▪ a cabin on B *deck* **b** : one of the seating levels in a sports stadium ▪ We sat in the lower/upper *deck*.

3 [*count*] *chiefly US* : a wood structure that has a floor but no walls or roof, is attached to a house or other building, and is used for sitting and relaxing ▪ We ate out on the *deck*. ▪ You can see into three different states from the mountaintop restaurant's ***observation deck***. [=a platform built so that people can see or watch something] — see picture at HOUSE

4 [*count*] *chiefly US* : a complete set of playing cards : a group of 52 playing cards ▪ The dealer shuffled the *deck* (of cards). — called also *pack* ✧ In informal U.S. English, someone who is ***not playing with a full deck*** is not able to think or act in a normal way. ▪ "He seemed a little weird." "Yeah, he's *not playing with a full deck*."

5 [*count*] : TAPE DECK

clear the decks *also* ***clear the deck*** : to get ready for action or for something new : to get rid of something to make room for something else ▪ He wants to *clear the decks* before the election campaign starts. ▪ Firing the CEO will *clear the decks* for change within the company.

hit the deck see [1]HIT

on deck *US* **1** *baseball* : waiting to bat next ▪ Smith is batting and Jones is *on deck*. **2** *informal* : next in a series ▪ The band's new song is *on deck* [=*next*] after this commercial break. — see also [1]DECK 1 (above)

[2]deck *verb* **decks**; **decked**; **deck•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to decorate (something) ▪ We spent hours *decking* the chapel with flowers before the wedding. — see also DECKED OUT 2 (below)

2 *informal* : to knock (someone) down by hitting very hard ▪ He *decked* him with one punch.

decked out **1** : dressed in a very fancy way ▪ We got ***all decked out*** for the occasion. — often + *in* ▪ She was *decked out in* furs. ▪ guys *decked out in* fancy tuxedos ▪ She was *all decked out in* a new dress. **2** : decorated in a fancy way — often + *with* ▪ a room *decked out with* hundreds of little lights

deck chair *noun, pl* ~ **chairs** [*count*] : a chair that can be folded up and that is used for sitting outside on the deck of a ship, on a beach, etc.

deck•hand /ˈdɛkˌhænd/ *noun, pl* **-hands** [*count*] : a worker on a ship who does work that does not require special training

deck•ing /ˈdɛkɪŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : material that is used to build a deck (sense 3) ▪ wooden *decking*

deck shoe *noun, pl* ~ **shoes** [*count*] : a flat shoe that is usually made of thick cloth and has a rubber bottom

de•claim /dɪˈkleɪm/ *verb* **-claims**; **-claimed**; **-claim•ing** *formal* : to say (something) in usually a loud and formal way [+ *obj*] The actress *declaimed* her lines with passion. [*no obj*] The speakers *declaimed* on a variety of issues.
– **dec•la•ma•tion** /ˌdɛkləˈmeɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count, noncount*]

de•clam•a•to•ry /dɪˈklæməˌtori, *Brit* dɪˈklæmətri/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* : expressing feelings or opinions in a way that is loud and forceful ▪ *declamatory* speeches/statements

dec•la•ra•tion /ˌdɛkləˈreɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**

1 : the act of making an official statement about something : the act of declaring something ▪ The government has made/issued a *declaration* of war on/against its enemies. [*noncount*] We awaited the *declaration* [=*announcement*] of the results. ▪ The case was ended by *declaration* of a mistrial.

2 [*count*] : something that is stated or made known in an official or public way ▪ a *declaration* of love ▪ You will need to make a *declaration* of your income.

3 [*count*] : a document that contains an official statement : a document that makes a declaration — usually singular ▪ The museum has a copy of the country's *declaration* of independence/sovereignty. ▪ the American *Declaration* of Independence ▪ Every 4th of July, we read a copy of the *Declaration*. [=the U.S. Declaration of Independence]

de•clar•a•tive /dɪˈklerətɪv/ *adj, grammar* : having the form of a statement rather than a question or a command ▪ "They went to school" is a *declarative* sentence. — compare IMPERATIVE, INTERROGATIVE

the declarative *grammar* : the form that a phrase or sentence has when it is stating something ▪ "They went to school" is in *the declarative*.

de•clare /dɪˈkleə/ *verb* **-clares**; **-clared**; **-clar•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to say or state (something) in an official or public way ▪ She publicly *declared* [=*announced*] her opposition to the plan. ▪ The government has just *declared* a state of emergency. ▪ The company was forced to ***declare bankruptcy***. [=to formally say in a legal document that it was bankrupt] ▪ He *declared* himself the winner. = He *declared* that he was the winner. = He ***declared victory***.

2 : to say (something) in a strong and confident way ▪ He still *declares* [=*affirms*, *asserts*] his innocence. ▪ She *declared* [=*announced*] that she would not attend the party under any circumstances. ▪ He openly *declared* his love for her.
synonyms see ASSERT

3 a : to tell the government about (money you have earned or received) in order to pay taxes ▪ They failed to *declare* all of their earnings on their tax return. **b** : to list and show the cost of (something bought in a different country) so that you can pay taxes on it ▪ Large purchases must be *declared* at customs. ▪ Do you have anything to *declare*?

declare against [*phrasal verb*] ***declare against (someone or something)*** *Brit, formal* : to officially say that you oppose (someone or something) ▪ She *declared against* the government's policies.

declare for [*phrasal verb*] **1** ***declare for (something)*** *US* : to officially say that you will take part in (something) ▪ a college basketball player who *declared for* the NBA draft after his junior year **2** ***declare for (someone or something)*** *Brit, formal* : to officially say that you support (someone or something) ▪ He *declared for* the plan.

declare war : to officially decide to fight or go to war ▪ Congress has the power to *declare war* on/against other countries. — often used figuratively ▪ The state has *declared war on* illiteracy.
– **declared** *adj* ▪ His *declared* [=publicly stated] aim/goal/intention is to improve the city's downtown area.

de•clas•si•fy /diˈklæsəˌfaɪ/ *verb* **-fies**; **-fied**; **-fy•ing** [+ *obj*] : to allow the public to see or learn about (something that has been a secret) ▪ The government has not yet *declassified* that information.
– **de•clas•si•fi•ca•tion** /diˌklæsəfəˈkeɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the *declassification* of a secret document
– **declassified** *adj* ▪ a *declassified* document

de•claw /diˈklɑ:/ *verb* **-claws**; **-clawed**; **-claw•ing** [+ *obj*] : to permanently remove the claws of (a cat) ▪ We had our cats *declawed*.

[1]de•cline /dɪˈklaɪn/ *verb* **-clines**; **-clined**; **-clin•ing**

1 [*no obj*] : to become lower in amount or less in number ▪ Oil prices continue to *decline*. [=*decrease*, *fall*] ▪ The construction of new houses *declined* five percent this year. ▪ The animal's numbers are *declining* rapidly.

2 [*no obj*] : to become worse in condition or quality ▪ The patient's condition has *declined*. [=*worsened*, *deteriorated*] ▪ My grandmother's health has been *declining* since she broke her hip. ▪ The civilization began to *decline* around 1000 B.C.

3 *somewhat formal* **a** [+ *obj*] : to say that you will not or cannot do something ▪ The company *declined* comment on the scandal. — usually followed by *to* + *verb* ▪ The company *declined to comment* on the scandal. ▪ She *declined to run* for a second term as governor. **b** : to say no to something in a polite way [+ *obj*] Regretfully, we have to *decline* [=*turn down*] the invitation to your wedding. ▪ He changed his mind and *declined* the company's offer. [*no obj*] I invited him, but he *declined*. — opposite ACCEPT

4 [+ *obj*] *grammar* : to list the different forms of (a noun, pronoun, or adjective) ▪ We had to *decline* the Latin adjective "brevis" on our test.
– **de•clin•er** /dɪˈklaɪnə/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] ▪ There were more advancers than *decliners* [=stocks that decreased in value] in the stock market today. – **de•clin•ing** /dɪˈklaɪnɪŋ/ *adj* ▪ *declining* health ▪ in her *declining* years [=in the last years of her life]

[2]decline *noun, pl* **-clines**

1 : the process of becoming worse in condition or quality

[*noncount*] a period of economic *decline* ▪ He says that American industry is in a state of *decline*. ▪ There was a general feeling that the country was ***in decline***. [=was becoming less powerful, wealthy, etc.] ▪ The town ***fell/went into decline*** after the factory closed down. [*count*] — usually singular ▪ He has experienced a *decline* in health. ▪ the *decline* and fall of the Roman empire ▪ The company's products suffered a *decline* in quality. ▪ a gradual physical/mental *decline*

2 : a change to a lower number or amount [*count*] The economy experienced a *decline* of two million jobs. ▪ We saw a sharp/steep *decline* in sales this month. ▪ *Declines* led advances at the end of the trading day. [*noncount*] There was some *decline* in stock prices at the end of the trading session.

on the decline : becoming worse in condition or less in size, amount, number, etc. : declining ▪ His health is *on the decline*. ▪ Sales are *on the decline*.

de•code /di'koʊd/ *verb* **-codes**; **-cod•ed**; **-cod•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to change (secret messages, documents, etc.) from a set of letters, numbers, symbols, etc., you cannot understand into words you can understand ▪ The government agents finally *decoded* [=*deciphered*] the message. — compare CODE, ENCODE

2 : to find or understand the true or hidden meaning of (something) ▪ Readers can easily *decode* the novel's imagery. ▪ I'm trying to *decode* the expression on her face.

3 *technical* : to change signals for a radio, television, etc., to a form that can be heard or seen correctly ▪ The box *decodes* the digital signal for your CD player.

de•cod•er /di'koʊdə/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *technical* : an electronic device that changes signals for a radio, television, etc., to a form that can be heard or seen correctly

dé•col•le•tage /deɪˌkɑːlə'tɑːʒ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the top of a woman's dress, blouse, etc., that is cut very low so the top of the woman's breasts can be seen

– **dé•col•le•té** /deɪˌkɑːl'teɪ/ *adj* ▪ a *décolleté* dress

de•col•o•ni•za•tion *also Brit* **de•col•o•ni•sa•tion** /diˌkɑːlənə'zeɪʃən, *Brit* diˌkɒləˌnaɪ'zeɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the process of making a colony or a group of colonies independent ▪ the British *decolonization* of India

de•com•mis•sion /ˌdiːkə'mɪʃən/ *verb* **-sions**; **-sioned**; **-sion•ing** [+ *obj*] : to officially stop using (a ship, weapon, dam, etc.) : to remove (something) from service ▪ Several military bases are scheduled to be *decommissioned*. ▪ The government is *decommissioning* the nuclear power plant.

de•com•pose /ˌdiːkəm'poʊz/ *verb* **-pos•es**; **-posed**; **-pos•ing**

1 : to cause something (such as dead plants and the bodies of dead animals) to be slowly destroyed and broken down by natural processes, chemicals, etc. [+ *obj*] Bacteria and fungi help *decompose* organic matter. ▪ partially *decomposed* bodies [*no obj*] The wood on our deck is beginning to *decompose*. [=(less formally) *rot*] ▪ the smell of *decomposing* leaves

synonyms see ¹DECAY

2 *technical* : to cause something (such as a chemical) to be separated into smaller or simpler parts [+ *obj*] *decompose* a chemical compound [*no obj*] The compound will *decompose* in the presence of light.

– **de•com•po•si•tion** /diˌkɑːmpə'zɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ The wood is already showing signs of *decomposition*. ▪ the *decomposition* of organic matter

de•com•press /ˌdiːkəm'prɛs/ *verb* **-press•es**; **-pressed**; **-press•ing**

1 : to release or reduce the physical pressure on something [+ *obj*] Surgery *decompressed* the vertebrae. [*no obj*] Once pressure was released, the vertebrae *decompressed*.

2 [+ *obj*] *computers* : to change (a computer file that has been made smaller) back to its original size by using special software ▪ The file must be *decompressed* before it can be read.

3 [*no obj*] *US, informal* : to rest and relax ▪ After their busy week, they needed some time to *decompress*. [=*unwind*]

– **de•com•pres•sion** /ˌdiːkəm'prɛʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ The divers underwent *decompression*. [=a process in which air pressure is slowly decreased to allow a person who has been deep underwater to adapt safely to the pressure at the surface] ▪ data/file *decompression*

decompression chamber *noun, pl* ~ **-bers** [*count*] : a small room that allows a person (such as an ocean diver) to slowly experience lower amounts of air pressure until normal air pressure is reached

decompression sickness *noun* [*noncount*] *medical* see *the bends* at ²BEND 3

de•con•ges•tant /ˌdiːkən'ʤɛstənt/ *noun, pl* **-tants** [*count, noncount*] : a medicine that helps stop thick fluid from building up in your nose, throat, or chest when you have a cold or similar illness

de•con•struc•tion /ˌdiːkən'strʌkʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] *technical* : a theory used in the study of literature or philosophy which says that a piece of writing does not have just one meaning and that the meaning depends on the reader

– **de•con•struct** /ˌdiːkən'strʌkt/ *verb* **-structs**; **-struct•ed**; **-struct•ing** [+ *obj*] ▪ *deconstruct* a literary passage

de•con•tam•i•nate /ˌdiːkən'tæməˌneɪt/ *verb* **-nates**; **-nat•ed**; **-nat•ing** [+ *obj*] : to remove dirty or dangerous substances (such as radioactive material) from (a person, thing, place, etc.) ▪ Special workers were called in to *decontaminate* the area after the oil spill.

– **de•con•tam•i•na•tion** /ˌdiːkənˌtæmə'neɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the *decontamination* of drinking water

de•cor *or* **dé•cor** /deɪ'koə, 'deɪˌkoə/ *noun, pl* **-cors** : the way that a room or the inside of a building is decorated [*count*] — usually singular ▪ We loved the *decor* of the restaurant. ▪ It had a very elegant *décor*. [*noncount*] The store offers a lot in home *decor*.

dec•o•rate /'dɛkəˌreɪt/ *verb* **-rates**; **-rat•ed**; **-rat•ing**

1 : to make (something) more attractive usually by putting something on it [+ *obj*] Several expensive paintings *decorate* [=*adorn*] the walls. ▪ I always enjoy *decorating* the Christmas tree. ▪ I *decorated* my apartment in dark colors. ▪ a beautifully *decorated* box — often + *with* ▪ We're going to *decorate* the room *with* balloons and flowers for her birthday party. ▪ The gift was beautifully *decorated with* lace and ribbons. [*no obj*] I love *decorating* [=putting up decorations] for the holidays.

2 [+ *obj*] : to give a medal or award to (someone, such as a soldier) — usually used as *(be) decorated* ▪ He *was decorated* for courage during the war. ▪ a *decorated* war veteran

dec•o•ra•tion /ˌdɛkə'reɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**

1 : something that is added to something else to make it more attractive [*count*] The vase has a fancy *decoration* on one side. ▪ a box of Christmas *decorations* [=*ornaments*] [*noncount*] a plain sweater knit without *decoration* ▪ The handles are not just ***for decoration*** [=are not just decorative], they serve a practical purpose.

2 [*noncount*] : the act of decorating something (such as a room) ▪ He's a genius at home *decoration*. ▪ a unique style of *decoration* ▪ She is certified to do ***interior decoration***. [=*interior design*]

3 [*count*] : a medal or award that is given to someone for doing something brave or honorable (such as fighting bravely in a war) ▪ He received a *decoration* from the President.

dec•o•ra•tive /'dɛkrətɪv/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : used to make something more attractive : used for decoration ▪ We added some *decorative* details/elements/touches to the room. ▪ *decorative* [=*ornamental*] shrubs ▪ The handles are *decorative* and practical.

– **dec•o•ra•tive•ly** *adv* ▪ Arrange the fruit *decoratively* in the bowl.

dec•o•ra•tor /'dɛkəˌreɪtə/ *noun, pl* **-tors** [*count*] : a person who decorates something especially as a job ▪ a cake *decorator* ▪ They hired a *decorator* to redesign their dining room. ▪ She became an ***interior decorator***. [=*interior designer*]

dec•o•rous /'dɛkərəs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* : correct and polite in a particular situation ▪ We expect *decorous* [=*proper*] behavior/conduct from our students. ▪ a *decorous* [=*civilized, respectable*] young woman

– **dec•o•rous•ly** *adv*

de•co•rum /dɪ'korəm/ *noun* [*noncount*] *formal* : correct or proper behavior that shows respect and good manners ▪ He has no sense of *decorum*. ▪ Court *decorum* [=proper behavior in a courtroom] requires that all parties address the judge as "Your Honor."

de•coy /'diːˌkoɪ/ *noun, pl* **-coys** [*count*]

1 : a wooden or plastic bird (such as a duck) that is used by hunters to attract live birds

2 : a person or thing that attracts people's attention so they will not notice someone or something else ▪ He had a *decoy* distract the guard while he jumped over the fence.

– **de•coy** /dɪ'kʰoɪ/ *verb* **-coys**; **-coyed**; **-coy•ing** [+ *obj*] ▪ Hunters *decoyed* the ducks to the pond.

¹de•crease /dɪ'kriːs/ *verb* **-creas•es**; **-creased**; **-creas•ing**

1 [*no obj*] : to become smaller in size, amount, number, etc. ▪ Sales *decreased* by five percent this year. ▪ The population is *decreasing* steadily. = The population is steadily *decreasing* in size.

2 [+ *obj*] : to make (something) smaller in size, amount, number, etc. ▪ By exercising often, you can *decrease* [=*reduce, lower*] your chance of developing heart disease. ▪ The driver *decreased* her speed as she approached the curve. ▪ These changes will *decrease* our expenses. — opposite INCREASE

– **decreased** *adj* ▪ The patient has a *decreased* appetite. ▪ a *decreased* risk of heart disease – **decreasingly** *adv* ▪ The medication has been *decreasingly* effective. [=has gradually been becoming less effective]

²de•crease /'di:ˌkri:s/ *noun, pl* **-creas•es**

1 : the act of becoming smaller or of making something smaller in size, amount, number, etc. [*count*] Studies report a recent *decrease* in traffic accidents. ▪ We've had a *decrease* [=*reduction*] in the number of students enrolling in the school. ▪ significant *decreases* in activity [*noncount*] Because of the injury, some *decrease* in mobility is to be expected.

2 [*count*] : the amount by which something is made smaller ▪ The report showed *decreases* [=*reductions*] of between 20 and 30 percent. ▪ a *decrease* of three dollars — opposite INCREASE

on the decrease : becoming less in size, amount, number, etc. : decreasing ▪ The number of college applications is *on the decrease*. [=*on the decline*]

¹de•cree /dɪ'kri:/ *noun, pl* **-crees**

1 : an official order given by a person with power or by a government [*count*] The President issued a *decree* making the day a national holiday. ▪ The soldiers read the people a ***royal decree***. [=an order given by a king or queen] ▪ a ***papal decree*** [=a decree from a Pope] [*noncount*] He took his position ***by decree*** [=because of a decree] of the national government. ▪ *by* royal *decree*

2 : an official decision made by a court of law [*count*] She tried to have the court's *decree* [=*judgment, ruling*] reversed. ▪ a divorce *decree* [*noncount*] Their marriage was annulled by judicial *decree*.

²decree *verb* **-crees**; **-creed**; **-cree•ing** : to order or decide (something) in an official way [+ *obj*] The government *decreed* a national holiday. ▪ The change was *decreed* by the President. ▪ The City Council has *decreed* that all dogs must be kept on a leash. [*no obj*] He was favored to win, but fate *decreed* otherwise. [=it was not his fate to win; he did not win]

de•crep•it /dɪ'krɛpət/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : old and in bad condition or poor health ▪ The *decrepit* [=*run-down, dilapidated*] building was badly in need of repair. ▪ My *decrepit* car barely starts. ▪ a *decrepit* old man

de•crep•i•tude /dɪ'krɛpəˌtu:d, *Brit* dɪ'krɛpəˌtju:d/ *noun* [*noncount*] *formal* : the state of being old and in bad condition or poor health ▪ The house has fallen into *decrepitude*.

de•crim•i•nal•ize *also Brit* **de•crim•i•nal•ise** /di'krɪmənəˌlaɪz/ *verb* **-iz•es**; **-ized**; **-iz•ing** [+ *obj*] : to make (something that is illegal) legal by changing the law ▪ He believes that the government should *decriminalize* [=*legalize*] the use of marijuana.

– **de•crim•i•nal•i•za•tion** *also Brit* **de•crim•i•nal•i•sation** /diˌkrɪmənələ'zeɪʃən, *Brit* diˌkrɪmənəˌlaɪ'zeɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the *decriminalization* of marijuana

de•cry /dɪ'kraɪ/ *verb* **-cries**; **-cried**; **-cry•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to say publicly and forcefully that you regard (something) as bad, wrong, etc. ▪ In her article, she *decries* the pollution of the environment by manufacturers. ▪ Parents *decried* [=*condemned*] the movie's emphasis on sex. ▪ Violence on television is generally *decried* as harmful to children.

ded•i•cate /'dɛdɪˌkeɪt/ *verb* **-cates**; **-cat•ed**; **-cat•ing** [+ *obj*] : to officially make (something) a place for honoring or remembering a person, event, etc. ▪ The new park was *dedicated* today. — often + *to* ▪ The memorial is *dedicated to* all the soldiers who died in the war.

dedicate to [*phrasal verb*] **1** ***dedicate (something) to (something)*** : to decide that (something) will be used for (a special purpose) : to use (time, money, energy, attention, etc.) for (something) ▪ She *dedicates* 10 percent of each paycheck *to* her savings. ▪ He *dedicated* [=*devoted*] his life/time *to* helping the poor. = He ***dedicated himself to*** helping the poor. [=he used his time, energy, etc., to help the poor] ▪ After graduating from college, he *dedicated himself to* his career. **2** ***dedicate (something) to (someone)*** : to say that (a book, song, etc.) was written or is being performed to honor or express affection for (someone) ▪ She *dedicated* her first novel *to* her father. ▪ I would like to *dedicate* this next song *to* my mother.

dedicated *adj*

1 [*more* ~; *most* ~] : having very strong support for or loyalty to a person, group, cause, etc. ▪ the band's most *dedicated* [=*devoted*] fans ▪ They are a group of highly *dedicated* [=*committed, enthusiastic*] individuals. ▪ He is a *dedicated* teacher. = He is *dedicated* to the teaching profession.

2 *always used before a noun, technical* : used only for one particular purpose ▪ We have a *dedicated* phone line for our computer. [=a phone line that we use only for our computer]

ded•i•ca•tion /ˌdɛdɪ'keɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**

1 [*noncount*] : a feeling of very strong support for or loyalty to someone or something : the quality or state of being dedicated to a person, group, cause, etc. ▪ It took a lot of hard work and *dedication*, but we managed to finish the project on time. — often + *to* ▪ We admire her *dedication to* helping the poor. ▪ his tireless/unwavering *dedication to* the cause

2 [*count*] : a message at the beginning of a book, song, etc., saying that it was written or is being performed in order to honor or express affection for someone — often + *to* ▪ His novel includes a brief *dedication to* his family.

3 [*count*] : the act of officially saying that something (such as a new building) was created for a particular purpose (such as worship) or to remember or honor a particular person ▪ the *dedication* of the temple ▪ They celebrated the *dedication* of the new building with a ribbon-cutting ceremony. — sometimes used before another noun ▪ *dedication* ceremonies

de•duce /dɪ'du:s, *Brit* dɪ'dju:s/ *verb* **-duc•es**; **-duced**; **-duc•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to use logic or reason to form (a conclusion or opinion about something) : to decide (something) after thinking about the known facts ▪ Scientists use several methods to *deduce* [=*determine*] the age of ancient objects. ▪ They *deduced* [=*concluded*] that he was present at the scene of the crime. — often + *from* ▪ A word's meaning can often be *deduced from* its context.

de•duct /dɪ'dʌkt/ *verb* **-ducts**; **-duct•ed**; **-duct•ing** [+ *obj*] : to take away (something, especially an amount of money) from a total ▪ When paying our taxes, can we *deduct* [=*subtract*] the cost of our child's education? ▪ You can *deduct* up to $500 for money given to charity. — often + *from* ▪ *Deduct* the points *from* the total score. ▪ Payments are directly *deducted from* [=taken out of] your bank account. — opposite CREDIT

¹de•duct•ible /dɪ'dʌktəbəl/ *adj* : able to be subtracted from an amount of money ▪ The trip was *deductible* as a business expense. ▪ All donations to charities are *deductible*. [=taxes do not have to be paid on money given to charities] ▪ tax-*deductible* expenses/donations

²deductible *noun, pl* **-ibles** [*count*] *US* : an amount of money that you have to pay for something (such as having your car fixed after an accident) before an insurance company pays for the remainder of the cost ▪ I have an insurance policy with a $1,000 *deductible*.

de•duc•tion /dɪ'dʌkʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**

1 a [*noncount*] : the act of taking away something (such as an amount of money) from a total ▪ He pays for his insurance by automatic payroll *deduction*. [=the money for his insurance is automatically taken out of his paycheck] **b** [*count*] : something (such as an amount of money) that is or can be subtracted from a total ▪ The government is offering new tax *deductions* for small businesses. ▪ What is your pay after the *deductions* have been taken out?

2 a [*noncount*] : the act or process of using logic or reason to form a conclusion or opinion about something : the act or process of deducing something ▪ His guess was based on intuition rather than *deduction*. **b** [*count*] : a conclusion or opinion that is based on logic or reason ▪ Our *deduction* was based on the information given to us at the time. ▪ It was a logical *deduction*.

de•duc•tive /dɪ'dʌktɪv/ *adj* : using logic or reason to form a conclusion or opinion about something ▪ a conclusion based on *deductive* reasoning/logic

¹deed /'di:d/ *noun, pl* **deeds**

1 : something that is done : an act or action [*count*] They taught their children to be kind and to do good *deeds*. ▪ evil/dirty *deeds* ▪ We are judged by our *deeds*. [=we are judged by what we do] ▪ News of their heroic *deeds* spread far and wide. ▪ It's too late now. The *deed* is done. [*noncount*] He is honest in word and in *deed*. [=he says things that are true and does the things he says he will]

2 : a legal document that shows who owns a building or piece of land [*noncount*] The land was transferred by *deed*. [*count*] He gave them the *deed* to the property. — often plu-

ral in British English ▪ The bank holds the *deeds* to your property.

²deed *verb* **deeds**; **deed•ed**; **deed•ing** [+ *obj*] *US* : to give someone ownership of (a building or piece of land) by means of a deed ▪ She *deeded* the house to her children.

¹dee•jay /ˈdiːˌʤeɪ/ *noun, pl* **-jays** [*count*] *informal* : DISC JOCKEY

²deejay *verb* **-jays**; **-jayed**; **-jay•ing** *informal* : to play popular recorded music on the radio or at a party, nightclub, etc., especially as a job : to work as a disc jockey [*no obj*] He has *deejayed* at the radio station for over 20 years. [+ *obj*] Who is *deejaying* your wedding?

deem /ˈdiːm/ *verb* **deems**; **deemed**; **deem•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to think of (someone or something) in a particular way ▪ The building was *deemed* [=*considered, judged*] unsafe after the fire. ▪ We *deemed* [=*believed, thought*] it wise to wait. ▪ Do whatever you *deem* (to be) necessary. ▪ The principal will take whatever action she *deems* appropriate in this case.

¹deep /ˈdiːp/ *adj* **deep•er**; **-est**

1 a : having a large distance to the bottom from the surface or highest point ▪ We walked in the *deep* snow. ▪ a *deep* well/pool/hole ▪ a *deep* valley between the mountains ▪ The water is *deepest* in the middle of the lake. ▪ She's afraid of swimming in *deep* water. ▪ a plant with *deep* roots — often used figuratively ▪ The tradition has *deep* roots in our culture. — opposite SHALLOW **b** : going far inward from the outside or the front edge of something ▪ The house has lots of *deep* closets. ▪ *deep* shelves ▪ She has a small but *deep* wound on her arm. — opposite SHALLOW **c** : located far inside something — usually + *in* or *within* ▪ The animals live *deep in/within* the forest/jungle/mountains, far from any people. ▪ His hands were *deep in* his pockets. ▪ The sound came from *deep within* his throat. — often used figuratively ▪ The memories were hidden *deep in* his mind. [=he had not thought about the memories in a long time] ▪ I knew *deep in* my heart [=I believed very strongly] that we would succeed.

2 *not used before a noun* : having a specified measurement downward, inward, or backward ▪ This enormous canyon is over a mile *deep*. ▪ The shelves are 10 inches *deep*. ▪ We walked through knee-*deep* snow [=snow as high as our knees] to get to school. ▪ The basement was waist-*deep* in water. [=the top of the water that filled the basement was as high as a person's waist] ▪ He stepped into an ankle-*deep* puddle of mud. — see also SKIN-DEEP

3 a : located near the outside edges of an area ▪ (*baseball*) He hit a fly ball to *deep* right field. **b** : hit, thrown, or kicked a long distance ▪ The quarterback threw a *deep* [=*long*] pass into the end zone.

4 : done by taking in or breathing out a large amount of air ▪ Take a *deep* breath and try to relax. ▪ a *deep* sigh

5 : low in sound or musical pitch ▪ I could hear my father's *deep* voice from down the street. ▪ a *deep* bass line — opposite HIGH

6 : having a dark, strong color ▪ She painted white clouds in a *deep* blue sky. ▪ The walls were a *deep* red. ▪ *deep* rich colors — opposite LIGHT, PALE

7 : very intelligent and serious but complex or difficult to understand ▪ She's always been a *deep* [=*profound*] thinker. = She's very *deep*. ▪ This book is far too *deep* for me. ▪ He has some very *deep* thoughts on the issue. ▪ a *deep* discussion on the meaning of life

8 : full of mystery ▪ The main character has a *deep*, dark secret that is revealed at the end of the movie.

9 a : completely involved in an activity : concentrating and giving all of your attention to something — + *in* ▪ He was so *deep in* thought that he didn't hear us come in. ▪ We spent the next few hours *deep in* conversation. **b** : affected by something in a very serious way — + *in* ▪ They found themselves ***deep in debt***. [=they had a lot of debt; they owed a large amount of money]

10 : very bad, serious, or severe ▪ The country's economy fell into a *deep* depression/recession. ▪ There are still *deep* divisions within the group. [=people in the group have very different opinions and can't agree] ▪ Many people here live in *deep* poverty. [=many people are very poor] ▪ The entire family was in *deep* shock after hearing about the accident. ▪ I got in *deep* trouble with my parents for staying out too late.

11 : very strongly felt ▪ I offered them my *deepest* sympathy. ▪ They shared a *deep* [=*profound*] concern for the environment. ▪ She felt a *deep* [=*heartfelt*] connection with the culture. ▪ a *deep* sense of happiness and well-being ▪ the *deep* emotional bond between parent and child ▪ *deep* feelings of loss ▪ The book made a *deep* impression on his young mind.

12 : full, complete, or thorough ▪ She has a *deep* understanding of the company's needs. ✧ If you are in a ***deep sleep***, you are thoroughly asleep and it is hard to wake you up. ▪ He fell into a *deep sleep* and didn't wake up until the afternoon.

13 *US* : going down to a very low price, level, etc. ▪ a *deep* reduction in price ▪ The store offered *deep* discounts during the grand opening sale.

14 *US, sports* : having many good players ▪ The team is very *deep* this year. ▪ The baseball team has a *deep* bullpen.

in deep water : in a difficult situation : in trouble ▪ I thought I could handle the work, but I soon found myself *in deep water*.

the deep end *informal* **1** — used in phrases like ***throw in (at) the deep end*** and ***jump in (at) the deep end*** to describe starting a new and difficult activity when you are not fully prepared or ready to do it ▪ After graduating, he was not afraid to *jump in at the deep end* and start his new business alone. ▪ Teachers are *thrown in the deep end* when they first start teaching. **2** ✧ To ***go off the deep end*** is to go crazy, such as by behaving foolishly or by becoming very angry or upset. ▪ Her friends thought she had *gone off the deep end* when she suddenly decided to quit her job. ▪ After his wife died, he started *going off the deep end*. ▪ I understand that you're angry, but there's no reason to *go off the deep end*.

– **deep•ness** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the *deepness* [=*depth*] of the water

²deep *adv* **deeper**; **-est**

1 a : far into or below the surface of something ▪ The ship now lies *deep* below/beneath the water's surface. ▪ Our feet sank *deeper* into the mud. ▪ The treasure was buried *deep* within the ground. ▪ Their secret offices were located *deep* underground. — often used figuratively ▪ Her angry words hurt/cut him *deep*. [=*deeply*] ▪ He stared *deep* into her eyes. ▪ The detective dug *deeper* into the murder case. **b** : far into or inside something ▪ We walked *deep* into the forest. ▪ The soldiers are operating *deep* within enemy territory.

2 *not used before a noun* : at a specified measurement downward, inward, or backward ▪ I stood three feet *deep* in the water. ▪ They parked the cars three *deep* [=three cars in a row], and our car was stuck in the middle. ▪ We walked knee-*deep* in the snow. [=we walked in snow that was deep enough to reach our knees] ▪ He stepped ankle-*deep* into a puddle of mud.

3 : to a late time ▪ They danced *deep* [=*late, well, far*] into the night. [=they danced until it was very late at night]

4 *sports* **a** : near the outside edges of a playing area ▪ The outfielder was playing *deep*. **b** : for a long distance ▪ He hit/threw/kicked the ball *deep* down the field.

5 ✧ If you ***breathe deep***, you take a large amount of air into your lungs. ▪ The doctor told her to *breathe deep*. [=breathe deeply]

deep down (inside) ✧ If you feel or believe something *deep down* or *deep down inside*, you feel or believe it completely even if you do not say it or show it to other people. ▪ He knew *deep down inside* that she was right. ▪ I believed *deep down* that we were going to win. ▪ *Deep down*, I think we all felt the same way. ▪ He might look like a mean old man, but *deep down inside* he is a very kind person.

in (too) deep *informal* : in a difficult situation that you cannot get out of ▪ He wanted to get out of the deal, but he was *in too deep*.

run deep : to be felt very strongly ▪ Fear *runs deep* in this small town. ▪ Her love for her family *runs deep*. — see also *still waters run deep* at ²STILL

³deep *noun*

the deep **1** *literary* + *formal* : the ocean ▪ *the* briny *deep* ▪ creatures of *the deep* **2** *literary* : the middle part of something ▪ He left home in ***the deep of the night***. [=*the dead of the night*]

the deeps *literary* + *formal* : the deep parts of the ocean ▪ *the* ocean *deeps*

deep–dish /ˈdiːpˌdɪʃ/ *adj, always used before a noun, US* : baked in a dish that has high sides ▪ *deep-dish* pizza ▪ a *deep-dish* apple pie

deep•en /ˈdiːpən/ *verb* **-ens**; **-ened**; **-en•ing**

1 : to become or to cause (something) to become deep or deeper [+ *obj*] They *deepened* the river so that larger boats could sail through. ▪ Age had *deepened* the lines in his face. [*no obj*] The water *deepens* toward the center of the river.

2 : to become or to cause (something, such as a feeling or emotion) to become stronger or more powerful [+ *obj*] The

experience *deepened* [=*strengthened*] his love for acting. • Her powerful words *deepened* our commitment to the cause. • The vacation together *deepened* their relationship with each other. • The mystery was *deepened* by her silence. [*no obj*] Their friendship *deepened* [=grew deeper] with time.

3 [+ *obj*] : to make (your knowledge, understanding, etc.) fuller or more complete • This class will *deepen* your understanding of economics. • Living in the country's capital had *deepened* her knowledge of politics.

4 : to become or to cause (something) to become worse or more severe [+ *obj*] The government's policies have *deepened* the country's economic recession. • The situation is *deepening* the divisions between the two groups. [*no obj*] These divisions have *deepened* over the years.

5 : to become or to cause (something, such as a person's voice) to become lower in sound [*no obj*] His voice has *deepened* over the years. [+ *obj*] Time has *deepened* his voice.

6 [*no obj*] : to become darker or stronger in color • The sunset *deepened* from a pale yellow to a bright orange. • Rather than fading, the colors *deepened* in tone. • The sky *deepened* to a dark blue.

7 ✧ To ***deepen your breathing*** is to take more air into your lungs when you breathe.

– **deep•en•ing** /ˈdi:pə‚nɪŋ/ *adj* • It confirmed our *deepening* suspicions that she was planning to leave. • A *deepening* [=*worsening*] financial crisis threatened the economy. • the country's *deepening* poverty • *deepening* shadows [=shadows that are becoming darker]

deep fat *noun* [*noncount*] : a deep layer of oil or fat that is heated in a pan or machine and used to fry food • a *deep-fat* fryer [=a machine used to fry food in deep fat]

deep freeze *noun, pl* ~ **freezes**

1 : a state of extreme cold [*count*] This part of the world experienced a *deep freeze* for several thousand years. [*noncount*] a period of *deep freeze* — sometimes used figuratively • Their relationship went into a *deep freeze* when she left for school.

2 [*count*] *Brit* : FREEZER

deep–fry /ˈdi:pˈfraɪ/ *verb* **-fries**; **-fried**; **-fry•ing** [+ *obj*] : to cook (food) in a deep layer of oil or fat • *Deep-fry* the chicken in two inches of oil.

– **deep–fried** *adj* • *deep-fried* chicken/potatoes

deep•ly /ˈdi:pli/ *adv* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : in a way that is very complete, extreme, strongly felt, etc. : in a deep way • They fell *deeply* in love. • The car expenses sent him even more *deeply* into debt. • He asked us to think *deeply* [=to think seriously and for a long time] about the issue, because he felt it was very important. • I'm *deeply* [=*very, extremely*] sorry. • He came from a *deeply* religious family. • They're *deeply* [=*sharply*] divided on the issues. • I thought the movie was *deeply* moving/disturbing. = I was *deeply* moved/disturbed by the movie. • a *deeply* flawed design • The senator gave a *deeply* personal speech last night. • We are all *deeply* committed to peace. • The beliefs are *deeply* ingrained/embedded/entrenched in American culture. • *deeply* held beliefs/values • *deeply* felt emotions • She cares very *deeply* about/for him. • These traditions are *deeply* rooted in the past. = They are rooted *deeply* in the past.

2 : far into or below the surface of something • The designs are carved/cut *deeply* into the wooden chairs. • *deeply* buried beneath the snow — often used figuratively • You'll have to dig/delve *deeply* into the library to find that information.

3 ✧ If you ***breathe deeply*** or ***sigh deeply***, you take a large amount of air into your lungs when you breathe or sigh.

4 ✧ If you are ***sleeping deeply***, you are thoroughly asleep and it is hard to wake you up.

deep pockets *noun* [*plural*] *somewhat informal* : large amounts of money that can be used : great financial resources • a company with *deep pockets*

– **deep–pock•et•ed** /ˈdi:pˈpɑ:kətəd/ *adj* • *deep-pocketed* companies

deep–root•ed /ˈdi:pˈru:təd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : existing for a long time and very difficult to change : firmly established • The country's economic troubles are *deep-rooted.* [=*deep-seated*] • *deep-rooted* beliefs

deep–sea /ˈdi:pˈsi:/ *adj, always used before a noun* : living in, relating to, or done in the deep parts of the ocean • *deep-sea* creatures • We went *deep-sea* fishing/diving.

deep–seat•ed /ˈdi:pˈsi:təd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : existing for a long time and very difficult to change : firmly established • She has a *deep-seated* fear of flying. • The problems are far more *deep-seated* [=*deep-rooted*] than we thought.

deep–six /ˈdi:pˈsɪks/ *verb* **-six•es**; **-sixed**; **-six•ing** [+ *obj*] *US, informal* : to get rid of (something) : to no longer use or consider (something) • The government plans to *deep-six* [=*eliminate*] the program next year. • The committee *deep-sixed* the plan.

Deep South *noun*

the Deep South : the states in the most southern and eastern part of the U.S. and especially Georgia, Alabama, South Carolina, Louisiana, and Mississippi

deer /ˈdiɚ/ *noun, pl* **deer** [*count*] : a large wild animal that has four long thin legs, brown fur, and antlers if male

deer tick *noun, pl* ~ **ticks** [*count*] *US* : a very small insect found in the eastern U.S. and in Canada that usually feeds on deer and that can give the person or animal it bites various diseases (such as Lyme disease)

DEET /ˈdi:t/ *noun* [*noncount*] *chiefly US* : a chemical that is used to keep insects away from people and animals

de•face /dɪˈfeɪs/ *verb* **-fac•es**; **-faced**; **-fac•ing** [+ *obj*] : to ruin the surface of (something) especially with writing or pictures • The building was *defaced* with graffiti. • He was fined for *defacing* public property.

– **de•face•ment** /dɪˈfeɪsmənt/ *noun* [*noncount*]

de fac•to /dɪˈfæktoʊ, *Brit* ‚deɪˈfæktoʊ/ *adj, always used before a noun, formal* — used to describe something that exists but that is not officially accepted or recognized • She became the *de facto* leader of the group. [=she was the unofficial leader] • a *de facto* state of war • *de facto* government policies — compare DE JURE

– **de facto** *adv* • She became the leader *de facto*.

def•a•ma•tion /‚dɛfəˈmeɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** *formal* : the act of saying false things in order to make people have a bad opinion of someone or something : the act of defaming someone or something [*noncount*] He sued the newspaper for *defamation* (of character). [*count*] The article was full of lies and *defamations*.

de•fam•a•to•ry /dɪˈfæməˌtori, *Brit* dɪˈfæmətri/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* : meant to hurt the reputation of someone or something • *defamatory* statements [=statements that defame someone]

deer



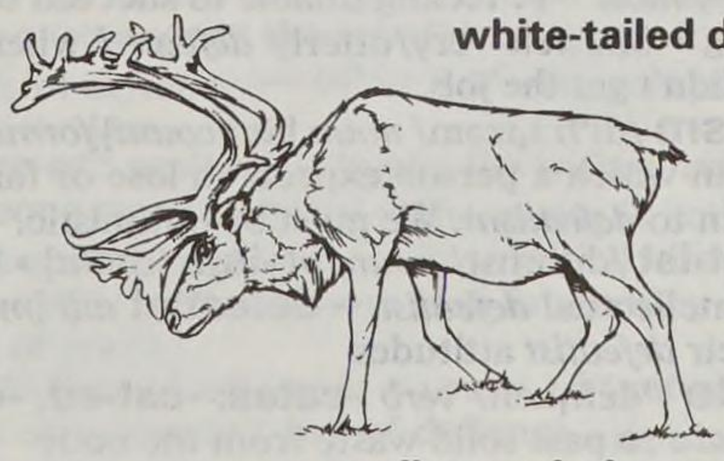
white-tailed deer



moose (*US*), elk (*Brit*)



elk (*US*), wapiti



caribou, reindeer

de•fame /dɪ'feɪm/ *verb* **-fames**; **-famed**; **-fam•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to hurt the reputation of (someone or something) especially by saying things that are false or unfair • He says he was *defamed* by reports that falsely identified him as a former gangster.

[1]de•fault /dɪ'fɑ:lt/ *noun, pl* **-faults**

1 [*noncount*] — used to describe something that happens or is done when nothing else has been done or can be done; usually used in the phrase ***by default*** • No one else wanted the job, so he became the club's president *by default*. • Their decision was made *by default*. All of the other options were no longer possible. • We won the game *by default* when the other team failed to show up. — sometimes used before another noun • the *default* winner

2 a : a failure to make a payment (such as a payment on a loan) [*noncount*] She's ***in default*** on her loan. [=she missed a payment on her loan] [*count*] mortgage *defaults* **b** [*noncount*] *law* : failure to appear in court • The defendant has made no appearance in the case and is ***in default***.

3 [*count*] *computers* : a setting, option, etc., that a computer uses if you do not choose a different one • You can enter your own settings or use the *defaults*. • Which font is the *default* in that computer program? — often used before another noun • the computer's *default* settings

in default of *formal* : in the absence of (something) : without (something) • *In default of* evidence, there can be no trial.

[2]default *verb* **-faults**; **-fault•ed**; **-fault•ing** [*no obj*]

1 : to fail to do something that legally must be done; *especially* : to fail to make the payments you must make on a loan, mortgage, etc. • He *defaulted* on his loan (payments). • If the borrower *defaults*, the bank can take the house.

2 *of a computer* : to automatically use a particular setting, option, etc., unless you choose a different one • The program *defaults* to a standard font.

– **de•fault•er** *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] • loan *defaulters*

[1]de•feat /dɪ'fi:t/ *verb* **-feats**; **-feat•ed**; **-feat•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to win a victory over (someone or something) in a war, contest, game, etc. • We lost to their team last year, but this year we're going to *defeat* [=*beat*] them. • We must be ready to *defeat* our enemies in battle. • Our candidate *defeated* him in the last election. • He *defeated* his opponent.

2 a : to cause (someone or something) to fail • She finally found a solution to a problem that had *defeated* many other researchers. • The bill was *defeated* in the state senate. • It would ***defeat the purpose*** of having a nice car if you never got to drive it. [=there would be no reason to have a nice car if you did not drive it] **b** : to control or overcome (something) • Scientists from around the world are working to *defeat* the disease. — see also DEFEATED

[2]defeat *noun, pl* **-feats**

1 : failure to succeed or to win [*noncount*] We weren't prepared for *defeat*. • One small error could make the difference between success and *defeat*. • After several tries we were forced to accept/admit/concede *defeat*. • The bill suffered *defeat* [=the bill was defeated] in the state senate. • Even ***in defeat*** [=even when he didn't win], he was a hero to those who loved the sport. [*count*] — usually singular • The passage of the law represented a *defeat* for their cause. • Her basketball team suffered a bitter/crushing/devastating *defeat*. [=*loss*] • That was his first *defeat* as a professional boxer. — opposite VICTORY

2 [*count*] : the act of winning a victory over someone or something • They celebrated their *defeat* of the enemy. • their 6–3 *defeat* of their rivals [=their 6–3 victory over their rivals]

go down to defeat : to fail or lose : to be defeated • The bill *went down to defeat* in the House.

defeated *adj*

1 — used to describe someone or something that has lost a contest, game, etc. • our *defeated* opponents

2 [*more* ~; *most* ~] : feeling unable to succeed or to achieve something • She felt very/utterly *defeated* when she found out she didn't get the job.

de•feat•ism /dɪ'fi:tˌɪzəm/ *noun* [*noncount*] *formal* : a way of thinking in which a person expects to lose or fail • We must not give in to *defeatism*. We must be optimistic.

– **de•feat•ist** /dɪ'fi:tɪst/ *noun, pl* **-ists** [*count*] • He was seen as an intellectual *defeatist*. – **defeatist** *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] • their *defeatist* attitudes

def•e•cate /'dɛfɪˌkeɪt/ *verb* **-cates**; **-cat•ed**; **-cat•ing** [*no obj*] *formal* : to pass solid waste from the body

– **def•e•ca•tion** /ˌdɛfɪ'keɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count, noncount*]

[1]de•fect /'di:ˌfɛkt/ *noun, pl* **-fects** [*count*] : a problem or fault that makes someone or something not perfect: such as **a** : a physical problem that causes something to be less valuable, effective, healthy, etc. • This small *defect* [=*flaw*] greatly reduces the diamond's value. • They examine their products for *defects*. • a minor/major *defect* • She was born with a heart *defect*. • a ***birth defect*** [=a physical problem that someone is born with] **b** : something that causes weakness or failure • We had to point out the *defect* [=*flaw*] in their logic. • Vanity and pride were his two worst character *defects*.

[2]de•fect /dɪ'fɛkt/ *verb* **-fects**; **-fect•ed**; **-fect•ing** [*no obj*] *formal* : to leave a country, political party, organization, etc., and go to a different one that is a competitor or an enemy • The Russian scholar *defected* in 1979. • She *defected* from the conservative party. • He *defected* to the West before the war began. • The reporter *defected* to another TV network.

– **de•fec•tion** /dɪ'fɛkʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count, noncount*] – **de•fec•tor** /dɪ'fɛktɚ/ *noun, pl* **-tors** [*count*] • the party's *defectors*

de•fec•tive /dɪ'fɛktɪv/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : having a problem or fault that prevents something from working correctly : having a defect or flaw • Our car had *defective* [=*faulty*] brakes, so we had them replaced. • This computer is *defective*. I want my money back. • *defective* products/merchandise • The disease is caused by a *defective* gene.

de•fend /dɪ'fɛnd/ *verb* **-fends**; **-fend•ed**; **-fend•ing**

1 : to fight in order to keep (someone or something) safe : to not allow a person or thing to hurt, damage, or destroy (someone or something) [+ *obj*] We are prepared to *defend* [=*protect, guard*] our country. — often + *from* or *against* • They have every right to *defend* themselves *from* those who would hurt them. • The army *defended* the territory *against* invaders. • Her body was no longer able to *defend* itself *against* disease. [*no obj*] — usually + *against* • These new weapons will make us better able to *defend against* attack. • The body's immune system *defends against* illness.

2 [+ *obj*] : to fight or work hard in order to keep (something, such as a right, interest, cause, etc.) from being taken away • The group *defends* [=*protects*] the rights of the poor. • The company must *defend* its own interests.

3 [+ *obj*] : to speak or write in support of (someone or something that is being challenged or criticized) • As a U.S. senator, it is my responsibility to *defend* [=*uphold*] the Constitution. • We believed it was a cause worth *defending*. • She *defended* her friend's behavior. • Stop *defending* him. What he did was wrong.

4 *sports* : to try to stop opponents from scoring [+ *obj*] Your job is to *defend* the goal. • Focus on *defending* the basket. [*no obj*] He *defended* well throughout the game. — often + *against* • She tried to *defend against* the jump shot.

5 [+ *obj*] : to compete in order to try to keep (a title, championship, etc.) • The team is looking to *defend* its national title. [=to win the national title again] • She successfully *defended* her championship. [=she won the championship again]

6 [+ *obj*] : to work as a lawyer for (someone who is being sued or accused of a crime) • They hired a famous lawyer to *defend* their son. • She *defended* herself during her trial.

– **de•fend•er** *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] • The player got past two *defenders*. • She's a staunch/tireless *defender* of human rights. — see also PUBLIC DEFENDER – **defending** *adj* • He lost to the *defending* champ. [=to the person who won last year] • This year, we are the *defending* world/national champions.

de•fend•ant /dɪ'fɛndənt/ *noun, pl* **-ants** [*count*] : a person who is being sued or accused of a crime in a court of law • The jury believed that the *defendant* was guilty. — compare PLAINTIFF

de•fense (*US*) *or Brit* **de•fence** /dɪ'fɛns/ *noun, pl* **-fens•es**

1 : the act of defending someone or something from attack [*noncount*] weapons of *defense* = weapons used for *defense* • They fought ***in defense of*** their country. [=they fought to defend their country] • the body's first ***line of defense*** [=way of defending itself] against illness [*count*] They put up a good *defense*, but the city ultimately fell to the invaders. • They mounted a good *defense*. — see also SELF-DEFENSE

2 [*count*] : something that is used to protect yourself, your country, etc. • The best *defense* is a good offense. [=the best way to defend something is to try to beat the opposite side] • The city's *defenses* were not strong enough to keep out the invaders. • We need to improve our *defenses*. • the nation's air and ground *defenses* — often + *against* • We have no *defense*

against such powerful weapons. [=we have no way to defend ourselves against such powerful weapons] ▪ the body's natural *defenses against* disease and infection

3 : the act of speaking or writing in support of someone or something that is being attacked or criticized [*noncount*] His friends quickly ***came/jumped to his defense***. [=his friends began saying that he was right or good] — often used in the phrase ***in defense*** ▪ She spoke out *in defense* of justice. [=she defended justice] ▪ Let me say, *in her defense*, that I would have done the same thing that she did. ▪ He spoke up *in his own defense*. [=he defended himself] [*count*] — usually singular ▪ She offered no *defense* [=*justification*] for her actions. ▪ We listened to a passionate/spirited *defense* of the governor's decision.

4 [*noncount*] : the things that are done by a country to protect itself from enemies ▪ In my view, the most important issue facing our country today is national *defense*. ▪ The candidates accused each other of being soft/weak on *defense*. ▪ The President wants to increase spending on *defense*. ▪ He was the Secretary of *Defense* under the last President. — often used before another noun ▪ He proposed an increase in *defense* spending. ▪ the *defense* secretary/minister/department ▪ They signed a billion-dollar *defense* contract with the company. ▪ cuts in the *defense* budget

5 a [*singular*] : the side of a legal case which argues that a person who is being sued or accused of a crime is innocent : the lawyer or lawyers who represent the defendant in a court case ▪ His friends are raising money (to pay) for his *defense*. ▪ ***The defense*** rests, Your Honor. ▪ *The defense* told the jury that the prosecution had not proved its case. — often used before another noun ▪ *defense* attorneys/lawyers ▪ a *defense* witness [=a person who speaks to support the defense's case] ▪ He had three lawyers on his *defense* team. — compare PROSECUTION **b** [*count*] : the method that is used in a court case to prove that someone is innocent ▪ Her lawyers plan to use an insanity *defense*. [=they will say that she was not sane when she committed the crime] ▪ It's a valid *defense*, and I think we should be able to win the case.

6 /'di:ˌfɛns/ **a** : the group of players on a team who try to stop an opponent from scoring [*count*] He ran through the *defense* and scored a touchdown. ▪ Our team has the best *defense* in the league. ▪ a talented *defense* [*noncount*] She began the season ***on defense*** [=playing on the part of the team that defends the goal], but her coach later put her on offense. **b** [*noncount*] : the way that players on a team try to stop an opponent from scoring ▪ The team needs some work on its *defense*. ▪ These guys play good/strong/tough *defense*. — compare OFFENSE 4

de•fense•less (*US*) *or Brit* **de•fence•less** /dɪ'fɛnsləs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not able to defend yourself, your country, etc. ▪ Without weapons of any kind, the people of the town were completely *defenseless*. ▪ Don't hurt them. They're just poor, *defenseless* [=*helpless*] animals. — often + *against* ▪ The disease leaves the body *defenseless against* infection.

de•fense•man (*US*) *or Brit* **de•fence•man** /dɪ'fɛnsmən/ *noun, pl* **-men** /-mən/ [*count*] : a player in a sport (such as hockey) who tries to stop the other team from scoring

defense mechanism (*US*) *or Brit* **defence mechanism** *noun, pl* ~ **-nisms** [*count*] *technical*

1 : a process in the brain that makes you forget or ignore painful or disturbing thoughts, situations, etc. ▪ She is projecting her anger on you as a *defense mechanism*.

2 : a reaction in your body that protects against disease or danger ▪ the cell's normal *defense mechanisms* against infection

de•fen•si•ble /dɪ'fɛnsəbəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal*

1 : able to be thought of as good or acceptable ▪ Both candidates hold *defensible* positions on the issue. ▪ Under those circumstances, her actions were completely *defensible*. ▪ Slavery is not morally *defensible*.

2 : able to be defended or protected : able to be kept safe from damage or harm ▪ The city has a *defensible* location. ▪ a *defensible* bridge

[1]de•fen•sive /dɪ'fɛnsɪv/ *adj*

1 *always used before a noun* : defending or protecting someone or something from attack : helping to keep a person or thing safe ▪ The city began building a *defensive* wall around its borders. ▪ The government decided to join a *defensive* alliance with several other nations. ▪ *Defensive* driving classes [=classes that teach you how to be a safe driver] can help you avoid accidents. ▪ We have taken many *defensive* measures [=we have done things to protect ourselves] against terrorist attacks. ▪ *defensive* actions — compare [1]OFFENSIVE 4

2 [*more* ~; *most* ~] : behaving in a way that shows that you feel people are criticizing you ▪ I was surprised by his *defensive* reaction to my suggestion. ▪ *defensive* behaviors/attitudes ▪ There's no need to get so *defensive*. I was only making a suggestion. ▪ When we asked her about the mistakes, she became *defensive*. — often + *about* ▪ He can be a bit *defensive about* his work as an artist.

3 *always used before a noun, sports* : of or relating to the way that players try to stop an opponent from scoring in a game or contest ▪ The coach has a strong *defensive* strategy. ▪ a *defensive* player/lineman — compare [1]OFFENSIVE 3

– de•fen•sive•ly *adv* ▪ "It wasn't my fault," she said *defensively*. ▪ The team needs to improve its game *defensively*. [=it needs to make its defense better] **– de•fen•sive•ness** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ There was a bit of *defensiveness* in his answer.

[2]defensive *noun*

on/onto the defensive **1** : in or into a situation in which you are forced to defend or protect someone or something ▪ We won after keeping the other team *on the defensive* for most of the game. ▪ Their soldiers appear to be *on the defensive*. ▪ The company was pushed/forced *onto the defensive* in the lawsuit. **2** : in or into a position in which you have to argue that something (such as one of your actions or beliefs) is good or correct when others say that it is bad or wrong ▪ The reporter often asks questions that put/place people *on the defensive*. ▪ He found himself *on the defensive* when the subject of the environment was discussed. ▪ The company is now *on the defensive* for its illegal business dealings.

de•fer /dɪ'fɚ/ *verb* **-fers**; **-ferred**; **-fer•ring** [+ *obj*] : to choose to do (something) at a later time ▪ She *deferred* work on her book. ▪ The accountant advised us not to *defer* our taxes. [=not to pay our taxes later] ▪ She'll *defer* her decision. — see also TAX-DEFERRED

defer to [*phrasal verb*] **1** ***defer to (someone)*** : to allow (someone else) to decide or choose something ▪ You have more experience with this, so I'm going to *defer to* you. ▪ *deferring to* the experts **2** ***defer to (something)*** : to agree to follow (someone else's decision, a tradition, etc.) ▪ The court *defers to* precedent in cases like these. ▪ He *deferred to* his parents' wishes.

def•er•ence /'dɛfərəns/ *noun* [*noncount*] *formal* : a way of behaving that shows respect for someone or something ▪ Her relatives treat one another with *deference*. ▪ He is shown much *deference* by his colleagues. — often + *to* ▪ The children were taught to show proper *deference to* their elders.

in deference to *or* ***out of deference to*** : in order to show respect for the opinions or influence of (someone or something) : out of respect for (someone or something) ▪ He decided not to get a tattoo *in deference to* his mother. ▪ The police have not yet revealed the victim's name *out of deference to* his family. ▪ customs used *in deference to* tradition

– def•er•en•tial /ˌdɛfə'rɛnʃəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ The class listened with *deferential* [=*respectful*] attention. ▪ *deferential* to tradition **– def•er•en•tial•ly** *adv* ▪ She bowed *deferentially*.

de•fer•ment /dɪ'fɚmənt/ *noun, pl* **-ments** : the act of allowing something to be delayed or deferred: such as **a** : official permission to pay for something at a later time [*count*] She requested a six-month *deferment* on her loan. [*noncount*] She requested *deferment* of her loan. **b** : official permission to do required military service at a later time [*count*] a draft *deferment* ▪ He received a ***college/student deferment***. [=permission to finish school before entering the military] [*noncount*] the policies of military *deferment*

de•fer•ral /dɪ'fɚrəl/ *noun, pl* **-rals** : the act of delaying or deferring something [*count*] a tax *deferral* [*noncount*] He applied for *deferral*.

de•fi•ance /dɪ'fajəns/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a refusal to obey something or someone : the act of defying someone or something ▪ acts of *defiance* — often + *of* ▪ He was jailed for his *defiance of* the law.

in defiance of : against or despite the wishes, rules, or laws of (someone or something) ▪ The group is acting *in defiance of* a government order. ▪ She married him *in defiance of* her parents. ▪ The dancers leap *in* seeming *defiance of* the laws of gravity.

de•fi•ant /dɪ'fajənt/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : refusing to obey something or someone : full of defiance ▪ *defiant* rebels ▪ a *defiant* act ▪ He's taken a *defiant* stand/stance on the issue.

– **de•fi•ant•ly** *adv* ▪ He's spoken out *defiantly* against the new law.

de•fi•bril•la•tor /di'fɪbrə,leɪtɚ/ *noun, pl* **-tors** [*count*] *medical* : a device that gives an electric shock to a person's heart in order to make it beat normally again especially after a heart attack

de•fi•cien•cy /dɪ'fɪʃənsi/ *noun, pl* **-cies**

1 : a lack of something that is needed : the state of not having enough of something necessary [*count*] The disease may be caused by nutritional *deficiencies*. ▪ The book's major *deficiency* is its poor plot. ▪ a *deficiency* of vitamin C [*noncount*] vitamin *deficiency*

2 [*count*] : a problem in the way something is made or formed ▪ There are several *deficiencies* in his plan. ▪ The accident was caused by *deficiencies* in the engine.

de•fi•cient /dɪ'fɪʃənt/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : not having enough of something that is important or necessary ▪ a nutritionally *deficient* diet — usually + *in* ▪ a diet *deficient in* certain vitamins ▪ a man who is *deficient in* judgment [=a man whose judgment is poor] ▪ students who are *deficient* [=*lacking*] in their knowledge of history

2 : not good enough : not as good as others ▪ mentally *deficient* ▪ Several bridges in the city are structurally *deficient*.

def•i•cit /'dɛfəsət/ *noun, pl* **-cits** [*count*]

1 : an amount (such as an amount of money) that is less than the amount that is needed ▪ The government is facing a *deficit* of $3 billion. ▪ We will reduce the federal budget *deficit*. ▪ Some economists advocate ***deficit spending*** [=spending borrowed money] to boost a slumping economy. — opposite SURPLUS; see also TRADE DEFICIT

2 : the amount by which a person or team is behind in a game or contest ▪ The team overcame a four-point *deficit* to win the game.

3 *chiefly US* : a problem that causes a decrease in some ability ▪ She has a slight hearing *deficit* in her left ear. — see also ATTENTION DEFICIT DISORDER

[1]de•file /dɪ'fajəl/ *verb* **-files**; **-filed**; **-fil•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal*

1 : to make (something) dirty ▪ The lake has been *defiled* by polluters.

2 : to take away or ruin the purity, honor, or goodness of (something or someone important) ▪ She thinks slang *defiles* the language. ▪ *defiling* the country's flag ▪ Vandals *defiled* the holy shrine.

– **de•file•ment** /dɪ'fajəlmənt/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the *defilement* of the shrine

[2]defile *noun, pl* **-files** [*count*] *formal* : a narrow passage through mountains : GORGE

de•fine /dɪ'faɪn/ *verb* **-fines**; **-fined**; **-fin•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to explain the meaning of (a word, phrase, etc.) ▪ How would you *define* (the word) "grotesque"? ▪ a term that is difficult to *define*

2 : to show or describe (someone or something) clearly and completely ▪ The government study seeks to *define* urban poverty. ▪ Her book aims to *define* acceptable social behavior. ▪ He was *defined* by his passions. [=his passions showed what kind of person he was] ▪ She believes that success should be ***defined in terms of*** health and happiness. ▪ Tigers are ***broadly/loosely defined*** [=described very generally] as large cats. ▪ He ***narrowly defines*** [=describes very specifically] a hero as someone who has earned a medal in battle.

3 : to show the shape, outline, or edge of (something) very clearly ▪ That fence *defines* the far edge of the property.

– **de•fin•able** /dɪ'faɪnəbəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ an easily *definable* word ▪ *definable* risk factors – **defined** *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ a clearly *defined* neighborhood ▪ Her cheekbones are well-*defined*. – **defining** *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ That was the campaign's ***defining moment***. [=the moment that showed very clearly what kind of campaign it was]

def•i•nite /'dɛfənɪt/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : said or done in a such way that others know exactly what you mean ▪ We'll need a *definite* answer by Tuesday. ▪ The answer is a *definite* no.

2 : not likely to change : already set or decided ▪ Are her plans *definite*? ▪ I don't know anything *definite* yet. ▪ The teacher sets *definite* standards for her students.

3 *not used before a noun* : confident or certain about doing something or that something will happen ▪ She seems to be pretty *definite* about leaving. ▪ I am *definite* that we will win.

definite article *noun, pl* ~ **articles** [*count*] *grammar* : the word *the* used in English to refer to a person or thing that is identified or specified; *also* : a word that is used in a similar way in another language — compare INDEFINITE ARTICLE

def•i•nite•ly /'dɛfənɪtli/ *adv* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : without doubt : in a way that is certain or clear ▪ The new model is *definitely* an improvement. ▪ The party will *definitely* be next week. ▪ The room is *definitely* not ready. ▪ "Will you come over on Saturday?" "*Definitely*!" [=*yes*]

def•i•ni•tion /,dɛfə'nɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**

1 [*count*] **a** : an explanation of the meaning of a word, phrase, etc. : a statement that defines a word, phrase, etc. ▪ dictionary *definitions* **b** : a statement that describes what something is ▪ What is the legal *definition* of a corporation? ▪ a *definition* of happiness

2 [*singular*] : a clear or perfect example of a person or thing ▪ He was the very *definition* of a gentleman. [=he was a perfect gentleman] ▪ A week of fishing is my *definition* of a vacation.

3 [*noncount*] : the quality that makes it possible to see the shape, outline, and details of something clearly ▪ muscle *definition* ▪ The picture lacks *definition*. [=the picture is not sharp/clear] ▪ a monitor with good *definition* and vibrant colors — see also HIGH-DEFINITION

by definition : because of what something or someone is : according to the definition of a word that is being used to describe someone or something ▪ A volunteer *by definition* is not paid. ▪ A glider is *by definition* an aircraft with no engine.

de•fin•i•tive /dɪ'fɪnətɪv/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : not able to be argued about or changed : final and settled ▪ We need a *definitive* answer to this question. ▪ The court has issued a *definitive* ruling.

2 : complete, accurate, and considered to be the best of its kind ▪ a *definitive* biography ▪ a *definitive* collection of the band's albums

– **de•fin•i•tive•ly** *adv* ▪ a virus *definitively* linked to some stomach diseases

de•flate /dɪ'fleɪt/ *verb* **-flates**; **-flat•ed**; **-flat•ing**

1 a [+ *obj*] : to release air or gas from (something, such as a tire or balloon) and make it smaller ▪ *deflate* the tires ▪ a *deflated* football **b** [*no obj*] : to lose air or gas from inside ▪ The birthday balloons *deflated* after a few days. — opposite INFLATE

2 [+ *obj*] **a** : to make (someone) lose confidence or pride ▪ The harsh criticism left him utterly *deflated*. ▪ an insult that would *deflate* their egos **b** : to show that (something) is not important or true ▪ *deflate* [=*defuse*] an argument ▪ He has worked to *deflate* popular myths about investing.

3 [+ *obj*] : to cause (prices, costs, etc.) to decrease : to cause (something, such as money or real estate) to lose value ▪ economic polices that could *deflate* (the value of) the dollar ▪ *Deflated* prices mean that farmers are getting less for their products.

de•fla•tion /dɪ'fleɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 : a decrease in the amount of available money or credit in an economy that causes prices to go down ▪ Economists worry that *deflation* will bring the country into recession. — compare INFLATION

2 : the act or process of letting air or gas out of (something) ▪ *deflation* of a balloon

– **de•fla•tion•ary** /dɪ'fleɪʃə,neri, *Brit* dɪ'fleɪʃənri/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ a *deflationary* period in the economy

de•flect /dɪ'flɛkt/ *verb* **-flects**; **-flect•ed**; **-flect•ing**

1 a [+ *obj*] : to cause (something that is moving) to change direction ▪ armor that can *deflect* bullets ▪ The goalie *deflected* the ball with his hands. **b** [*no obj*] : to hit something and suddenly change direction ▪ The ball *deflected* off the goalie's shoulder.

2 [+ *obj*] : to keep (something, such as a question) from affecting or being directed at a person or thing ▪ She's skilled at *deflecting* [=*avoiding*] questions/criticism. ▪ They are trying to *deflect* attention from the troubled economy. ▪ The blame was *deflected* from the chairman.

– **de•flec•tor** /dɪ'flɛktɚ/ *noun, pl* **-tors** [*count*] ▪ a wind *deflector*

de•flec•tion /dɪ'flɛkʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** : the act of changing or causing something to change direction [*noncount*] measuring the angle of *deflection* [*count*] He scored with a *deflection* off another player's stick.

de•flow•er /di'flawɚ/ *verb* **-ers**; **-ered**; **-er•ing** [+ *obj*] *literary* : to have sex with (someone who has not had sex before)

de•fog /di'fɑ:g/ *verb* **-fogs**; **-fogged**; **-fog•ging** [+ *obj*] *US* : to remove mist from (a window, mirror, etc.) by using dry heat ▪ *defog* [=(*Brit*) *demist*] the windshield — compare DEFROST, DEICE

– **de•fog•ger** *noun, pl* **-gers** [*count*] ▪ a window *defogger*

de•fo•li•ant /di'foʊlijənt/ *noun, pl* **-ants** [*count*] *technical* : a chemical that is sprayed on plants to make their leaves fall off

de•fo•li•ate /di'foʊli,eɪt/ *verb* **-ates**; **-at•ed**; **-at•ing** [+ *obj*] *technical* : to cause the leaves of (a plant) to fall off ▪ a chemical used to *defoliate* trees ▪ Insects are *defoliating* the trees.

– **de•fo•li•a•tion** /di,foʊli'eɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*]

de•for•es•ta•tion /di,forə'steɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the act or result of cutting down or burning all the trees in an area ▪ the *deforestation* of the island ▪ mudslides caused by *deforestation* — compare REFORESTATION

– **de•for•est** /di'forəst/ *verb* **-ests**; **-est•ed**; **-est•ing** [+ *obj*] — usually used as *(be) deforested* ▪ regions that have *been deforested* ▪ *deforested* areas

de•form /dɪ'foəm/ *verb* **-forms**; **-formed**; **-form•ing** : to change something so that it no longer has its normal or original shape [+ *obj*] The disease eventually *deforms* the bones. ▪ a face *deformed* [=*distorted, contorted*] by hatred [*no obj*] The disease eventually causes the bones to *deform*.

– **de•for•ma•tion** /,di:,foə'meɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count*] skeletal *deformations* [=(more commonly) *deformities*] [*noncount*] the *deformation* of steel

deformed *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : not having the normal or expected shape especially because of a problem in the way something has developed or grown ▪ *deformed* frogs ▪ a *deformed* [=*misshapen*] hand

de•for•mi•ty /dɪ'foəməti/ *noun, pl* **-ties** : a condition in which part of the body does not have the normal or expected shape [*count*] facial *deformities* [*noncount*] a disease causing *deformity* of the spine

de•frag /di'fræg/ *verb* **-frags**; **-fragged**; **-frag•ging** [+ *obj*] *chiefly US, computers, informal* : DEFRAGMENT

de•frag•ment /di'frægmənt/ *verb* **-ments**; **-ment•ed**; **-ment•ing** [+ *obj*] *chiefly US, computers* : to use a special program to move data on (a computer disk) so that related information is stored together ▪ I *defragmented* my hard drive.

de•fraud /dɪ'frɑ:d/ *verb* **-frauds**; **-fraud•ed**; **-fraud•ing** : to trick or cheat someone or something in order to get money : to use fraud in order to get money from a person, an organization, etc. [+ *obj*] They were accused of trying to *defraud* the public. ▪ They conspired to *defraud* the government. [*no obj*] She was convicted of writing bad checks ***with intent to defraud***.

de•fray /dɪ'freɪ/ *verb* **-frays**; **-frayed**; **-fray•ing** [+ *obj*] *somewhat formal* : to pay for (something) ▪ This will *defray* the costs/expenses.

de•frock /di'frɑ:k/ *verb* **-frocks**; **-frocked**; **-frock•ing** [+ *obj*] : to officially remove (a priest) from his or her job as punishment for doing something wrong — usually used as *(be) defrocked* ▪ He *was defrocked* last year. ▪ a *defrocked* priest

de•frost /dɪ'frɑ:st/ *verb* **-frosts**; **-frost•ed**; **-frost•ing**

1 : to warm something that is frozen until it is no longer frozen [+ *obj*] You can *defrost* the soup in the microwave. [*no obj*] He took some fish out of the freezer to *defrost* [=*thaw*] in the fridge. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ It took a while for her to *defrost* [=to stop being unfriendly] and open up to us.

2 : to melt ice that has built up on the inside of a freezer or refrigerator [+ *obj*] *defrost* the freezer [*no obj*] Has the refrigerator *defrosted* yet?

3 [+ *obj*] : to melt ice on a car's windows by using heat ▪ *defrost* the windshield — compare DEFOG, DEICE

de•frost•er /dɪ'frɑ:stə/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *US* : a device that uses heat or hot air to melt ice on or remove moisture from a surface ▪ the car's rear *defroster* ▪ a freezer with a built-in *defroster*

deft /'dɛft/ *adj* **deft•er**; **deft•est** [*or more ~; most ~*]

1 : skillful and clever ▪ a *deft* politician ▪ The photographer is known for her *deft* use of lighting.

2 : able to do something quickly and accurately ▪ the trumpeter's *deft* fingers

– **deft•ly** *adv* ▪ a *deftly* played symphony – **deft•ness** /'dɛftnəs/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ political *deftness* ▪ the *deftness* of the surgeon

de•funct /dɪ'fʌŋkt/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *formal* : no longer existing or being used ▪ a *defunct* steel company ▪ She wrote for the now-*defunct* newspaper.

de•fuse /di'fju:z/ *verb* **-fus•es**; **-fused**; **-fus•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to make (something) less serious, difficult, or tense ▪ Skilled negotiators helped *defuse* the crisis/situation. ▪ Her joke *diffused* the tension in the room.

2 : to remove the part of (an explosive) that makes it explode : to remove the fuse from (an explosive) ▪ *defuse* a bomb

de•fy /dɪ'faɪ/ *verb* **-fies**; **-fied**; **-fy•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to refuse to obey (something or someone) ▪ She *defied* her parents and dropped out of school.

2 : to make (something) very difficult or impossible ▪ The article *defies* a simple summary. [=the article cannot be explained by a simple summary] ▪ views of nature that *defy* belief/description [=that are hard to believe/describe]

3 : to resist or fight (something) ▪ The group has continued to *defy* all efforts to stop them.

4 : to go against (something) ▪ The team *defied* the odds [=did something that was very unlikely] and won the championship. ▪ an explanation that *defies* all logic [=an explanation that does not make any sense]

5 : to tell (someone) to do something that you think cannot be done ▪ I *defy* you to prove that I lied. ▪ I *defy* anyone to name a better film. [=I do not think that anyone can name a better film; I do not think that there is a better film]

deg. *abbr* degree

[1]de•gen•er•ate /dɪ'ʤɛnə,reɪt/ *verb* **-ates**; **-at•ed**; **-at•ing** [*no obj*] : to change to a worse state or condition : to become worse, weaker, less useful, etc. ▪ As the disease progresses, the patient's health will *degenerate* [=*deteriorate*] rapidly. — often + *into* ▪ Experts fear that the country is *degenerating into* chaos. ▪ The meeting *degenerated into* a shouting match.

– **de•gen•er•a•tion** /dɪ,ʤɛnə'reɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ muscle tissue *degeneration* ▪ Experts fear the *degeneration* of the country into chaos.

[2]de•gen•er•ate /dɪ'ʤɛnərət/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : having low moral standards : not honest, proper, or good ▪ He criticizes what he believes is a *degenerate* society.

– **de•gen•er•a•cy** /dɪ'ʤɛnərəsi/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ moral *degeneracy*

[3]de•gen•er•ate /dɪ'ʤɛnərət/ *noun, pl* **-ates** [*count*] *disapproving* : a person whose behavior is not morally right or socially acceptable ▪ a couple of *degenerates* on a crime spree

de•gen•er•a•tive /dɪ'ʤɛnərətɪv/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *medical* : causing the body or part of the body to become weaker or less able to function as time passes ▪ a *degenerative* disease/disorder

de•grad•able /dɪ'greɪdəbəl/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *technical* : capable of being slowly broken down into simple parts ▪ plastic that is not *degradable* — compare BIODEGRADABLE

deg•ra•da•tion /,dɛgrə'deɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** *somewhat formal*

1 : the act or process of damaging or ruining something [*noncount*] *degradation* of the environment [*count*] There has been a slight *degradation* [=*decline*] in the car's performance.

2 : the act of treating someone or something poorly and without respect [*noncount*] the *degradation* of women ▪ He was forced to live a life of *degradation*. [=a life in which he suffered and was treated very poorly] [*count*] He was forced to suffer the *degradations* [=*indignities*] of poverty and abuse.

de•grade /dɪ'greɪd/ *verb* **-grades**; **-grad•ed**; **-grad•ing**

1 [+ *obj*] : to treat (someone or something) poorly and without respect ▪ The group accuses the company of *degrading* women in its ads. ▪ I am not going to *degrade* [=*lower*] myself by responding to these baseless accusations. ▪ He felt *degraded* by their remarks.

2 [+ *obj*] : to make the quality of (something) worse ▪ Scratches on a camera lens will *degrade* the image. ▪ Pollution has *degraded* air quality.

3 *technical* : to cause (something complex) to break down into simple substances or parts [+ *obj*] enzymes that *degrade* proteins [*no obj*] plastics that don't *degrade* [=*decompose*] easily

– **degrading** *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] ▪ a *degrading* job ▪ He made a *degrading* remark about my weight.

de•gree /dɪ'gri:/ *noun, pl* **-grees**

1 [*count*] : a unit for measuring temperature ▪ Bake the bread at 350 *degrees* (Fahrenheit) for 35 minutes. ▪ 20 *degrees* Fahrenheit/Celsius [=20° F/C] — abbr. *deg.*

2 [*count*] : a unit for measuring the size of an angle ▪ There are 360 *degrees* in a circle. ▪ 47 *degrees* latitude/longitude ▪ a 15 *degree* angle [=a 15° angle] — abbr. *deg.*

3 : an amount or level that can be measured or compared to another amount or level [*noncount*] These trees will thrive,

to a greater or lesser *degree*, in a number of climates. ▪ ***To what degree*** [=how much] is she interested in finance? ▪ We don't yet know ***the degree to which*** [=how much] the roof is damaged. [*count*] — usually + *of* ▪ a high *degree of* difficulty/skill ▪ They have had varying *degrees of* success. ▪ We can now predict the weather with a greater *degree of* accuracy. [=with more accuracy]

4 [*noncount*] : a measure of how severe or serious something is ▪ He was accused of murder in the first *degree*. = He was accused of first-*degree* murder. [=the most serious kind of murder] ▪ a second-*degree* burn — see also FIRST-DEGREE, SECOND-DEGREE, THIRD-DEGREE

5 [*count*] : an official document and title that is given to someone who has successfully completed a series of classes at a college or university ▪ She has a *degree* in engineering. ▪ a four-year *degree* [=a degree that is given to someone who has completed four years of study] ▪ a ***bachelor's/master's degree*** ▪ She received an ***honorary degree***. [=a degree given by a college or university to someone who is not a student but who has done something important]

by degrees : very slowly : by a series of small changes ▪ The tomatoes changed *by degrees* from green to red.

to some degree *also* ***to a (certain) degree*** : not completely but partly ▪ *To some degree*, they're right. ▪ We simplified the process *to a certain degree*. [=*somewhat*]

to the nth degree see NTH

de•hu•man•ize *also Brit* **de•hu•man•ise** /di'hju:mə,naɪz/ *verb* **-iz•es**; **-ized**; **-iz•ing** [+ *obj*] : to treat (someone) as though he or she is not a human being ▪ Inspectors have observed terrible factory conditions that *dehumanize* workers. ▪ The government's propaganda is meant to *dehumanize* the enemy. [=to make the enemy seem less human] ▪ the *dehumanizing* nature of torture

– **de•hu•man•iz•a•tion** *also Brit* **de•hu•man•is•a•tion** /di,hju:mənə'zeɪʃən, *Brit* di,hju:mə,naɪ'zeɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*]

de•hu•mid•i•fi•er /,di:hju'mɪdə,fajɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a machine that takes moisture out of the air — compare HUMIDIFIER

de•hy•drate /di'haɪ,dreɪt/ *verb* **-drates**; **-drat•ed**; **-drat•ing** *somewhat technical*

1 [+ *obj*] : to remove water or moisture from (something, such as food) ▪ Salt *dehydrates* the meat and keeps it from spoiling.

2 : to lose too much water [*no obj*] Athletes drink lots of water so they don't *dehydrate*. [+ *obj*] Exercising in this heat will *dehydrate* you.

– **dehydrated** *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ *dehydrated* fruit ▪ *dehydrated* athletes – **de•hy•dra•tion** /,di:,haɪ'dreɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ Athletes drink lots of water to prevent *dehydration*.

de•ice /di'aɪs/ *verb* **-ic•es**; **-iced**; **-ic•ing** [+ *obj*] : to remove ice from (something) ▪ We watched while they *deiced* the plane before takeoff. — compare DEFOG, DEFROST

de•i•fy /'dijə,faɪ, 'dejə,faɪ/ *verb* **-fies**; **-fied**; **-fy•ing** [+ *obj*] : to treat (someone or something) like a god or goddess ▪ The people *deified* the emperor. ▪ Our society *deifies* [=*worships*] money.

– **de•i•fi•ca•tion** /,dijəfə'keɪʃən, ,dejəfə'keɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the *deification* of celebrities

deign /'deɪn/ *verb* **deigns**; **deigned**; **deign•ing** [*no obj*] *formal* + *disapproving* : to do something that you think you should not have to do because you are too important — usually followed by *to* + *verb* ▪ She finally *deigned to speak* to me. ▪ The actor walked by, not even *deigning* [=*stooping, condescending*] *to acknowledge* his fans.

de•i•ty /'di:jəti, 'dejəti/ *noun, pl* **-ties** [*count*] : a god or goddess ▪ ancient Greek *deities* ▪ a reference to ***the Deity*** [=*God*]

déjà vu /,deɪʒɑ:'vu:/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 : the feeling that you have already experienced something that is actually happening for the first time ▪ I entered the room and immediately felt a sense of *déjà vu*.

2 *chiefly US, informal* : something that has happened many times before : something that is very familiar ▪ When the car broke down again, it was *déjà vu*. ▪ The rise in housing costs is ***déjà vu all over again***.

de•ject•ed /dɪ'ʤɛktəd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : sad because of failure, loss, etc. ▪ The *dejected* players left the field. ▪ She's been so *dejected* [=*depressed, unhappy*] since her sister moved away.

– **de•ject•ed•ly** *adv* ▪ The players *dejectedly* walked off the field.

de•jec•tion /dɪ'ʤɛkʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] : sadness that is caused by failure, loss, etc. ▪ You could see the *dejection* [=*unhappiness*] on her face.

de ju•re /di'ʤuri/ *adj, always used before a noun, law* : based on or according to the law ▪ the end of *de jure* segregation ▪ *de jure* authority — compare DE FACTO

– **de jure** *adv* ▪ The UN has recognized the country *de jure*.

Del. *abbr, US* Delaware

[1]de•lay /dɪ'leɪ/ *noun, pl* **-lays**

1 : a situation in which something happens later than it should [*count*] Do you know what's causing the *delay*? ▪ The nurse apologized for the *delay* [=*wait*] and said that the doctor would be in shortly. ▪ a number of flight *delays* [*noncount*] After months of *delay*, construction on the new school began. ▪ The roof must be repaired ***without delay***. [=*immediately*]

2 [*count*] : the amount of time that you must wait for something that is late ▪ Airline travelers are experiencing *delays* of up to three hours.

[2]delay *verb* **-lays**; **-layed**; **-lay•ing**

1 : to wait until later to do something : to make something happen later [+ *obj*] The doctor wants to *delay* surgery for a few weeks. ▪ They *delayed* [=*put off*] having children until their late 30s. ▪ She's planning to *delay* her retirement. [*no obj*] He *delayed* too long, and now it's too late. ▪ "Don't *delay*! Sale ends Saturday."

2 [+ *obj*] : to make (something or someone) late : to make (something or someone) take longer than expected or planned ▪ Production problems *delayed* the introduction of the new model by several months. — often used as *(be) delayed* ▪ We *were delayed* by traffic. ▪ Many flights *were delayed*.

– **delayed** *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ He had a very *delayed* reaction to the medication. [=a reaction that did not happen immediately]

delaying tactic *noun* [*count*] : something that is done in order to delay a decision, an occurrence, etc. — called also (*chiefly US*) *delay tactic*

de•lec•ta•ble /dɪ'lɛktəbəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *somewhat formal*

1 : very pleasant to taste or smell : DELICIOUS ▪ the restaurant's *delectable* food ▪ The meals he prepares are always *delectable*.

2 *humorous* : very attractive ▪ one of the most *delectable* men she's ever met

– **de•lec•ta•bly** /dɪ'lɛktəbli/ *adv* ▪ a *delectably* seasoned steak

de•lec•ta•tion /,di:,lɛk'teɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] *formal* : pleasure or enjoyment ▪ Here is some chocolate for your *delectation*.

[1]del•e•gate /'dɛlɪgət/ *noun, pl* **-gates** [*count*] : a person who is chosen or elected to vote or act for others : REPRESENTATIVE ▪ the U.N. *delegates* from African countries ▪ He's been chosen as a *delegate* to the convention.

[2]del•e•gate /'dɛlɪ,geɪt/ *verb* **-gates**; **-gat•ed**; **-gat•ing**

1 : to give (control, responsibility, authority, etc.) to someone : to trust someone with (a job, duty, etc.) [+ *obj*] A manager should *delegate* authority to the best employees. ▪ Those chores can be *delegated* to someone else. [*no obj*] He doesn't *delegate* very well.

2 [+ *obj*] : to choose (someone) to do something — often used as *(be) delegated* ▪ He *was delegated* by the town to take care of the monument.

del•e•ga•tion /,dɛlɪ'geɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**

1 [*count*] : a group of people who are chosen to vote or act for someone else ▪ a *delegation* of diplomats ▪ He's been chosen to lead the *delegation* to the conference. ▪ the state's ***congressional delegation*** [=the group of officials elected to the U.S. Congress from a particular state]

2 [*noncount*] *formal* : the act of giving control, authority, a job, a duty, etc., to another person — usually + *of* ▪ the *delegation of* responsibilities

de•lete /dɪ'li:t/ *verb* **-letes**; **-let•ed**; **de•let•ing** [+ *obj*] : to remove (something, such as words, pictures, or computer files) from a document, recording, computer, etc. ▪ *Delete* this name from the list. ▪ When the movie was shown on TV all the swearwords had been *deleted*. ▪ She accidentally *deleted* [=*erased*] the file/e-mail.

– **de•le•tion** /dɪ'li:ʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count*] The *deletions* shouldn't affect the meaning of the letter. [*noncount*] The *deletion* of that paragraph makes your letter read better.

del•e•te•ri•ous /ˌdɛlə'tirijəs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* : damaging or harmful • The chemical is *deleterious* to the environment. • The drug has no *deleterious* effects on patients.

deli /'dɛli/ *noun, pl* **del•is** [*count*] : a store where you can buy foods (such as meats, cheese, salads, and sandwiches) that are already cooked or prepared • We bought sandwiches and drinks at the *deli*. — called also *delicatessen*

[1]de•lib•er•ate /dɪ'lɪbərət/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : done or said in a way that is planned or intended : done or said on purpose • I don't think that was a mistake; I think it was *deliberate*. [=*intentional*] • a *deliberate* [=*planned*] attempt to trick people
2 : done or decided after careful thought • a *deliberate* choice/decision
3 : slow and careful • She spoke in a clear, *deliberate* manner/way. • He advocates a slow and *deliberate* approach to the problem.

[2]de•lib•er•ate /dɪ'lɪbəˌreɪt/ *verb* **-ates**; **-at•ed**; **-at•ing** : to think about or discuss something very carefully in order to make a decision [*no obj*] The jury *deliberated* for two days before reaching a verdict. [+ *obj*] They will *deliberate* the question. — often + *whether, what*, etc. • I've been *deliberating* [=*debating*] *whether* or not to accept the job offer.

de•lib•er•ate•ly /dɪ'lɪbərətli/ *adv* [*more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : in a way that is meant, intended, or planned • He *deliberately* tricked them.
2 : slowly and carefully : in a way that is not hurried • She spoke clearly and *deliberately* to the audience.

de•lib•er•a•tion /dɪˌlɪbə'reɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**
1 : careful thought or discussion done in order to make a decision [*noncount*] After hours of *deliberation*, the council came to a decision. [*count*] Jury *deliberations* lasted two days.
2 [*noncount*] : the quality of being slow and careful • She spoke to the audience with clarity and *deliberation*.

de•lib•er•a•tive /dɪ'lɪbəˌreɪtɪv, dɪ'lɪbərətɪv/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* : created or done in order to discuss and consider facts and reasons carefully • Congress is a *deliberative* body. • a *deliberative* process

del•i•ca•cy /'dɛlɪkəsi/ *noun, pl* **-cies**
1 [*count*] : a food that people like to eat because it is special or rare • The restaurant serves delicious sausages and other regional *delicacies*.
2 [*noncount*] : the quality of being delicate: such as **a** : the quality of being easily broken or damaged • the *delicacy* of the glassware **b** : the quality of being easily injured, hurt, or made sick • the *delicacy* [=*frailty*] of his health **c** : the attractive quality of something that is formed from many small or fine parts • The curtains were made from fine lace of great *delicacy*. • a musician known for the *delicacy* of her compositions • the *delicacy* of the young boy's features **d** : the appealing quality of something that is not too strong • the *delicacy* of the perfume • the *delicacy* of the wine's flavor
3 [*noncount*] **a** : special care or skill that is needed to prevent people from becoming upset or angry • This is a difficult situation that should be handled with *delicacy*. [=*tact*] **b** : the quality of requiring special care or skill • Because of the *delicacy* of the situation, we needed to speak privately.

del•i•cate /'dɛlɪkət/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]
1 a : easily broken or damaged • The cup is very *delicate* [=*fragile*], so please handle it carefully. • *delicate* flowers **b** : easily injured, hurt, or made sick • Her health is very *delicate*. [=*frail*] • He has a *delicate* stomach and often gets sick when traveling.
2 a : attractive and made up of small or fine parts • The fabric has a *delicate* floral print. • a small boy with *delicate* (facial) features • She has *delicate* hands. [=small and attractive hands] **b** : very carefully and beautifully made • We hung *delicate* lace curtains in the windows. • The tomb was adorned with *delicate* carvings.
3 : attractive because of being soft, gentle, light, etc. : pleasant or attractive in a way that is not too strong • the *delicate* flavor of the wine • a *delicate* perfume/sauce • a *delicate* color
4 : easily disturbed or upset • Many people struggle to maintain the *delicate* balance between work and family. • The violence in the film offended her *delicate* sensibilities. • The movie is not for *delicate* [=*squeamish*] people.
5 : requiring special care or skill : difficult to manage or do well • The doctor performed the *delicate* operation. • This is a *delicate* situation that needs to be handled carefully. • The situation calls for a very *delicate* approach.
– **del•i•cate•ly** *adv* • a *delicately* carved tomb • a *delicately* flavored ginger sauce • This situation must be handled *delicately*.

del•i•cates /'dɛlikəts/ *noun* [*plural*] : clothes made of delicate material that must be washed carefully

del•i•ca•tes•sen /ˌdɛlɪkə'tɛsn̩/ *noun, pl* **-sens** [*count*] : DELI

de•li•cious /dɪ'lɪʃəs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]
1 a : very pleasant to taste • Dinner was *delicious*. • This is the most *delicious* ice cream I have ever eaten. **b** : having a smell that suggests a very pleasant taste • The bread smells *delicious*. • *Delicious* aromas were floating from the kitchen.
2 *literary* : very pleasing or enjoyable • a *delicious* [=*delightful*] comedy about parenthood • a *delicious* bit of gossip
– **de•li•cious•ly** *adv* • They served a *deliciously* fruity dessert. • a *deliciously* witty writer – **de•li•cious•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

[1]de•light /dɪ'laɪt/ *noun, pl* **-lights**
1 [*noncount*] : a strong feeling of happiness : great pleasure or satisfaction • His expression when he saw the baby was one of pure *delight*. [=*joy*] • We watched the fireworks with *delight*. • The kids screamed ***in delight*** as they chased one another around the park. • ***To our delight***, our guests decided to stay another night. [=we were very happy that our guests decided to stay another night] • *To the delight of* the children, there were enough cookies for everyone to have two. • She ***takes delight in*** [=very much enjoys] her new job. • Some people seem to *take* great *delight in* hearing about the misfortunes of others.
2 [*count*] : something that makes you very happy : something that gives you great pleasure or satisfaction • The trip was a *delight*. • a garden full of tasty *delights* • The magazine is a cook's *delight*. • The stories are a *delight* to read.
– see also TURKISH DELIGHT

[2]delight *verb* **-lights**; **-light•ed**; **-light•ing** [+ *obj*] : to make (someone) very happy : to give (someone) great pleasure or satisfaction • The toy *delighted* the children. • The stories will *delight* readers of all ages.
delight in [*phrasal verb*] ***delight in (something)*** : to be very happy because of (something) : to enjoy (something) very much • I walked slowly, *delighting in* the crisp autumn air. • He *delights in* meeting new people.

delighted *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : made very happy : full of great pleasure or satisfaction • I am *delighted* [=*very pleased*] to meet you. • the *delighted* [=*joyful*] expression on his face • The children were especially *delighted* that there were enough cookies for each of them to have two. • She's *delighted* with her new job. [=she likes her new job very much] • We were *delighted* by the performance. • They are *delighted* at the prospect of a visit from their grandchildren.
– **de•light•ed•ly** *adv* • He laughed *delightedly*.

de•light•ful /dɪ'laɪtfəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : very pleasant : giving or causing delight • It has been *delightful* meeting you. • It is *delightful* [=*wonderful, great*] to be here. • That was a *delightful* party. • She's a *delightful* person.
– **de•light•ful•ly** *adv* • a *delightfully* sunny day

de•lim•it /dɪ'lɪmət/ *verb* **-its**; **-it•ed**; **-it•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to officially set or state the limits of (something) • Strict guidelines *delimit* his responsibilities.

de•lin•eate /dɪ'lɪniˌeɪt/ *verb* **-eates**; **-eat•ed**; **-eat•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to clearly show or describe (something) • The report clearly *delineates* the steps that must be taken. • The characters in the story were carefully *delineated*.
– **de•lin•ea•tion** /dɪˌlɪni'eɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*]

de•lin•quen•cy /dɪ'lɪŋkwənsi/ *noun, pl* **-cies**
1 : crimes or other morally wrong acts : illegal or immoral behavior especially by young people [*noncount*] They tried to steer him away from *delinquency* by giving him a job in their store. • She's been charged with contributing to the *delinquency* of a minor. [*count*] a series of minor *delinquencies*
— see also JUVENILE DELINQUENCY
2 *US* : the condition of someone who owes money and is not making payments at the required or expected time [*count*] Loan *delinquencies* are on the rise. [=an increasing number of people are failing to make their loan payments on time] [*noncount*] a high rate of *delinquency* • *Delinquency* rates are soaring.

[1]de•lin•quent /dɪ'lɪŋkwənt/ *noun, pl* **-quents** [*count*] : a young person who regularly does illegal or immoral things : JUVENILE DELINQUENT • a group of violent *delinquents*

[2]delinquent *adj*

1 : doing things that are illegal or immoral ▪ a school for *delinquent* children ▪ His *delinquent* behavior could lead to more serious problems.

2 *US* **a** : not paid at the required or expected time ▪ Her credit card account was *delinquent*. [=she had not made the payments that were due on her credit card account] ▪ The town is trying to collect *delinquent* taxes. **b** : failing to pay an amount of money that is owed ▪ people who are *delinquent* in their loan payments [=people who have not been paying back their loans when they said they would] ▪ *delinquent* borrowers

de•lir•i•ous /dɪ'lirijəs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : not able to think or speak clearly especially because of fever or other illness ▪ As the child's temperature went up, he became *delirious* and didn't know where he was. ▪ He was *delirious* with fever.

2 : very excited ▪ a group of *delirious* fans celebrating the team's victory — often + *with* ▪ We were *delirious with* happiness when we heard the news.

– **de•lir•i•ous•ly** *adv* ▪ *deliriously* happy ▪ *deliriously* in love ▪ He spoke *deliriously*.

de•lir•i•um /dɪ'lirijəm/ *noun, pl* **-iums**

1 : a mental state in which you are confused and not able to think or speak clearly usually because of fever or some other illness [*noncount*] In her *delirium*, nothing she said made any sense. ▪ a period of *delirium* [*count*] drug *deliriums*

2 [*noncount*] : a state of wild excitement and great happiness ▪ The team's victory sent fans into (a state of) *delirium*.

delirium tre•mens /-'tri:mənz/ *noun* [*noncount*] *medical* : D.T.'S

de•lish /dɪ'lɪʃ/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *US, informal* : DELICIOUS ▪ The whole meal was *delish*.

de•list /di'lɪst/ *verb* **-lists**; **-list•ed**; **-list•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to remove (something) from a list ▪ The company has been *delisted* from the stock exchange. [=the company is no longer one of the companies listed on the stock exchange]

de•liv•er /dɪ'lɪvɚ/ *verb* **-ers**; **-ered**; **-er•ing**

1 : to take (something) to a person or place [+ *obj*] The package was *delivered* to the office this morning. ▪ She *delivers* the mail on my street. ▪ They are having the furniture *delivered* next week. ▪ The supermarket *delivers* groceries for free within 30 miles of the store. [*no obj*] "Does the restaurant *deliver*?" "No, you have to pick up the food yourself."

2 [+ *obj*] : to say (something) officially or publicly : to present (a speech, statement, etc.) to a group of people ▪ He will *deliver* the speech at noon. ▪ The actors *delivered* their lines with passion. ▪ The jury is expected to *deliver* a verdict later today. ▪ The judge *delivered* a warning to the protesters.

3 a [*no obj*] : to do what you say you will do or what people expect you to do : to produce the promised, wanted, or expected results ▪ We gave her the job because we know she'll *deliver*. [=*come through*] ▪ He failed to ***deliver on*** his promise. [=he failed to do what he promised to do] **b** [+ *obj*] : to provide or produce (something) ▪ The novel *delivers* an inspiring look into the life and ideas of Gandhi. ▪ The company charges too much for what it *delivers*. ▪ The car *delivers* excellent/poor gas mileage. — see also *deliver the goods* at ²GOOD

4 [+ *obj*] **a** : to give birth to (a baby) ▪ She *delivered* healthy twin girls early this morning. ▪ (*technical*) The patient ***was delivered of*** [=gave birth to] healthy twin girls this morning. **b** : to help someone give birth to (a baby) ▪ The doctor is *delivering* a baby right now.

5 [+ *obj*] : to give control of (someone or something) to another person or group — + *to* or *into* ▪ He argues that by letting children watch too much television, we are *delivering* them *into* the hands of advertisers. ▪ A group of soldiers were ***delivered up to*** [=*handed over to*] the enemy at the border. ▪ The agreement ***delivered over*** [=*transferred*] the documents ***into*** the possession of the museum.

6 [+ *obj*] : to cause (something, such as a punch, a thrown ball, etc.) to hit or go to a person or place ▪ The boxer *delivered* a crushing blow to his opponent's head. ▪ He *delivered* [=*threw*] a fastball right over the plate. ▪ The country is believed to have the ability to *deliver* nuclear warheads. [=to attack other countries with nuclear warheads]

7 [+ *obj*] *chiefly US* : to get (votes) for a particular person or issue in an election ▪ She is doing her best to *deliver* the college student vote. [=to convince college students to vote a particular way]

8 [+ *obj*] *formal* + *literary* : to free (someone) *from* something ▪ all those who long to be *delivered from* slavery/tyranny ▪ " . . . *deliver* [=*save*] us *from* evil." —Matthew 6:13 (KJV)

deliver yourself of *formal* : to make, create, or produce (something) ▪ She has finally *delivered herself of* her long-awaited third novel.

– **de•liv•er•able** /dɪ'lɪvərəbəl/ *adj* ▪ a *deliverable* product – **deliverable** *noun, pl* **-ables** [*count*] — usually plural ▪ computer software *deliverables* [=products that can be delivered to customers] – **de•liv•er•er** /dɪ'livərɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] ▪ When are the *deliverers* bringing the sofa?

de•liv•er•ance /dɪ'lɪvərəns/ *noun* [*noncount*] *formal* : the state of being saved from something dangerous or unpleasant ▪ She prayed for *deliverance* as the famine got worse. — often + *from* ▪ He knew that his retirement would bring *deliverance from* the worries and stresses of his job.

de•liv•ery /dɪ'lɪvəri/ *noun, pl* **-er•ies**

1 a : the act of taking something to a person or place [*count*] The *delivery* is scheduled for this morning. ▪ The supermarket ***makes deliveries*** [=takes goods to customers] for free within 30 miles of the store. ▪ The restaurant doesn't ***do deliveries***. [=does not take food to customers] [*noncount*] The company offers free *delivery* with orders over $100. ▪ She does the mail *delivery* [=she delivers the mail] on my street. ▪ a *delivery* truck/service [=a truck/service that delivers something] ▪ Someone has to be home to accept/receive *delivery* of the package. ▪ Payment is due ***on delivery*** of the goods. [=when you receive the goods] ▪ Allow six weeks ***for delivery***. — see also SPECIAL DELIVERY **b** [*count*] : something that is taken to a person or place : something that is delivered ▪ The store got a *delivery* [=*shipment*] of shirts yesterday.

2 : the act or process of giving birth [*noncount*] The baby weighed almost seven pounds at the time of *delivery*. ▪ the ***delivery room*** [=a special room in a hospital where women give birth to babies] [*count*] The doctor expects it to be a routine *delivery*. ▪ The doctor has had three *deliveries* today.

3 [*singular*] : the way someone says something officially or publicly : the way someone delivers a speech, statement, etc., to a group of people ▪ The joke was funny, but his *delivery* was terrible. ▪ I need to work on my *delivery* before I give the speech.

4 [*count*] *sports* : the way a ball is thrown in baseball or cricket ▪ The pitchers have similar *deliveries*. ▪ a high *delivery*

take delivery of *formal* : to receive (something that is being delivered to you) ▪ The city will *take delivery of* the vehicles tomorrow.

delivery boy *noun, pl* ~ **boys** [*count*] *somewhat old-fashioned* : a boy or young man who delivers goods to customers from a store or restaurant

de•liv•ery•man /dɪ'lɪvərimən/ *noun, pl* **-men** /-mən/ [*count*] : a man who delivers goods to customers

dell /'dɛl/ *noun, pl* **dells** [*count*] *formal* + *literary* : a small valley with trees and grass growing in it

de•louse /di'laʊs/ *verb* **-lous•es**; **-loused**; **-lous•ing** [+ *obj*] : to remove lice from (someone or something) ▪ *delouse* clothing

del•ta /'dɛltə/ *noun, pl* **-tas**

1 [*count*] : the fourth letter of the Greek alphabet — Δ or δ

2 [*count*] : a piece of land shaped like a triangle that is formed when a river splits into smaller rivers before it flows into an ocean ▪ a river *delta* ▪ the Ganges/Nile *Delta*

3 *or* ***Delta*** [*singular*] *US* : an area of low land along the Mississippi River that is mainly in the state of Mississippi ▪ the Mississippi *Delta* ▪ *delta* blues [=blues music that comes from the Mississippi delta]

del•toid /'dɛlt,tɔɪd/ *noun, pl* **-toids** [*count*] : a large muscle of the shoulder ▪ well-developed *deltoids* ▪ the *deltoid* muscles

de•lude /dɪ'lu:d/ *verb* **-ludes**; **-lud•ed**; **-lud•ing** [+ *obj*] : to cause (someone) to believe something that is not true ▪ If she thinks I care, she's *deluding* [=*fooling*] herself. ▪ He was *deluded* [=*deceived*] by their lies. — often + *into* ▪ They *deluded* themselves *into* believing their team would win.

– **deluded** *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ His *deluded* family believed everything he said. ▪ a very *deluded* way of thinking

¹del•uge /'dɛl,ju:ʤ/ *noun, pl* **-ug•es** [*count*]

1 a : a large amount of rain that suddenly falls in an area ▪ The *deluge* caused severe mudslides. **b** : a situation in which a large area of land becomes completely covered with water : FLOOD ▪ the biblical *deluge*

2 : a large amount of things that come at the same time ▪ an advertising *deluge* [=many advertisements] — often + *of* ▪ The office receives a *deluge of* mail every day. ▪ a *deluge of* phone calls

²deluge *verb* **-uges**; **-uged**; **-ug•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to give or send (someone) a large amount of things at the

same time — usually used as *(be) deluged* ▪ The family *was deluged* [=*inundated*, *swamped*] with calls about the free puppies. ▪ The office *is deluged* with mail every day.

2 : to flood (a place) with water ▪ Heavy rains *deluged* the region.

de•lu•sion /dɪ'lu:ʒən/ *noun, pl* **-sions** [*count*]

1 : a belief that is not true : a false idea ▪ He has *delusions* about how much money he can make at that job. ▪ He is living/laboring ***under the delusion*** that he is incapable of making mistakes. ▪ She is *under the delusion* that we will finish on time.

2 : a false idea or belief that is caused by mental illness ▪ As the illness progressed, his *delusions* took over and he had violent outbursts. ✧ If you have ***delusions of grandeur***, you believe that you are much more important than you really are. ▪ The patient is suffering from hallucinations and *delusions of grandeur*. ▪ a young actress with *delusions of grandeur*

– **de•lu•sion•al** /dɪ'lu:ʒənl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ He showed signs of *delusional* thinking near the end of his life. ▪ If you think we can afford a new car, you are *delusional*.

de•luxe /dɪ'lʌks/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : of better quality and usually more expensive than the usual ones of its kind : very luxurious ▪ We stayed at a *deluxe* [=*fancy*] hotel. ▪ the *deluxe* model of the car ▪ The *deluxe* edition of the book includes many more illustrations.

delve /'dɛlv/ *verb* **delves**; **delved**; **delv•ing** [*no obj*]

1 : to search for information about something ▪ He tried to *delve* inside his memory for clues about what had happened. — usually + *into* ▪ Before the trip, I *delved into* the history of the city. ▪ Now is not the time to *delve into* the past. ▪ He *delved* deeply/further *into* his research.

2 *chiefly Brit* : to reach into a bag, container, etc., in order to find something — usually + *in* or *into* ▪ He *delved in* the drawer for a torch. ▪ She *delved into* her handbag in search of a pen.

Dem. *abbr, US* Democrat

dem•a•gogue /'dɛmə,gɑ:g/ *noun, pl* **-gogues** [*count*] *disapproving* : a political leader who tries to get support by making false claims and promises and using arguments based on emotion rather than reason ▪ His opponent called him a bigoted *demagogue*.

– **dem•a•gog•ic** /,dɛmə'gɑ:gɪk/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ a *demagogic* politician – **dem•a•gogu•ery** /'dɛmə,gɑ:gəri/ *also* **dem•a•gogy** /'dɛmə,gɑ:gi/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ political *demagoguery*

[1]de•mand /dɪ'mænd, *Brit* dɪ'mɑ:nd/ *noun, pl* **-mands**

1 [*count*] : a forceful statement in which you say that something must be done or given to you ▪ The committee is considering her *demand* that she be given more time to complete the study. ▪ The workers said they would not end the strike until their *demands* were met/satisfied. — often + *for* ▪ The store refused to meet the customer's *demand for* a refund. ▪ Parents made *demands for* the teacher's resignation.

2 [*singular*] : a strong need *for* something ▪ The *demand for* low-income housing is increasing as the economy gets worse. ▪ We are seeing an increased *demand for* hospital beds.

3 : the ability and need or desire to buy goods and services [*noncount*] The company increased production to meet *demand*. — often + *for* ▪ *Demand for* fresh milk has surpassed supply in the region. [=people want to buy more milk than is available] [*singular*] — often + *for* ▪ Local farmers say they will increase the number of peach trees they grow in order to meet a rising *demand for* peaches. [=in order to have as many peaches as customers want to buy] — see also SUPPLY AND DEMAND

4 *demands* [*plural*] **a** : difficult things you have to do because someone requires you to do them or because they are part of a job, activity, etc. — often + *of* ▪ He wasn't sure he could handle the physical *demands of* the work. ▪ The ***demands of*** the job became too much for him. ▪ New parents are sometimes overwhelmed by the *demands of* parenthood. **b** — used to describe something that requires a large amount of energy, time, etc. ▪ Record high temperatures have ***placed heavy demands on*** the nation's energy supplies. [=because of the high temperatures, a lot of the nation's energy is being used] ▪ A full-time job in addition to school ***puts great demands on*** her time. [=most of her time is spent working and going to school] ▪ His novels ***make many demands on*** the reader. [=his novels are difficult for people to read and understand]

in demand : needed or wanted by many people ▪ Tickets for her concerts are always *in* great *demand*. ▪ Good plumbers are *in demand* in our town.

on demand : when needed or wanted ▪ Help is available 24 hours a day *on demand*. ▪ The debt is payable *on demand*. [=it must be paid whenever the person who is owed the money wants it] — see also ON-DEMAND

popular demand : a request made by or a desire shared by many people ▪ Because of *popular demand*, the restaurant has published a cookbook of favorite recipes. ▪ The show will continue for another week due to *popular demand*. ▪ The circus will be back *by popular demand* [=because many people want it to come back] later this summer.

[2]de•mand *verb* **-mands**; **-mand•ed**; **-mand•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to say in a forceful way that something must be done or given to you : to say that you have a right to (something) ▪ The customer *demanded* a refund. ▪ He *demanded* an apology. ▪ Parents have *demanded* that the teacher resign. ▪ The reporter *demanded* to see the documents. ▪ I *demand* to know what is going on here!

2 : to say or ask (something) in a very forceful way ▪ "Come here at once!" he *demanded*. ▪ "Why won't you answer me?" she *demanded*.

3 : to require (something) ▪ He is very sick and *demands* constant care. [=he has to be given constant care] ▪ The situation *demands* immediate action. ▪ A certain standard of dress is *demanded* by some professions. [=some people have to dress a certain way because of their jobs] ▪ The job *demands* too much of him. [=the job requires him to do too much] ▪ The group *demands* [=*insists on*] total honesty from its members.

de•mand•ing *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : requiring much time, attention, or effort ▪ She had a *demanding* schedule with little free time. ▪ Factory work can be physically *demanding*. ▪ I have heard it is one of the most *demanding* courses at the university.

2 : expecting much time, attention, effort, etc., from other people : hard to satisfy ▪ Their boss was really *demanding*, often expecting them to work long into the night. — opposite UNDEMANDING

de•mar•cate /dɪ'mɑɚ,keɪt, 'di:,mɑɚ,keɪt/ *verb* **-cates**; **-cat•ed**; **-cat•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to show the limits or edges of (something) ▪ The plot of land is *demarcated* by a low brick wall. ▪ The bounardy between the countries must be clearly *demarcated*.

– **de•mar•ca•tion** /,di:,mɑɚ'keɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*noncount*] the *demarcation* of the boundary ▪ Troops are positioned on either side of the line of *demarcation*. = Troops are positioned on either side of the *demarcation* line. [*count*] The media has blurred the *demarcations* [=*lines, boundaries*] between news and entertainment.

de•mean /dɪ'mi:n/ *verb* **-means**; **-meaned**; **-mean•ing** [+ *obj*] : to cause (someone or something) to seem less important or less worthy of respect ▪ He was careful not to *demean* [=*debase, put down*] his opponent, choosing instead to show him respect. ▪ Her statement *demeans* the hard work the group has done. ▪ Their casual reaction *demeans* the seriousness of the problem. [=fails to treat the problem in an appropriately serious way] ▪ I refuse to ***demean myself*** by replying to these unjust accusations.

– **demeaning** *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ Our petty arguments are *demeaning* to us both. ▪ His comment is *demeaning* to women. ▪ He found the work *demeaning*. [=*degrading*] ▪ *demeaning* stereotypes

de•mean•or *(US) or Brit* **de•mean•our** /dɪ'mi:nɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ors** [*count*] : a person's appearance and behavior : the way someone seems to be to other people — usually singular ▪ She has a shy/friendly/warm *demeanor*. ▪ His quiet *demeanor* [=*manner, bearing*] had a calming effect on us. ▪ They maintained a solemn *demeanor* as they told us the bad news.

de•ment•ed /dɪ'mɛntəd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not able to think clearly or to understand what is real and what is not real : crazy or insane ▪ Many of the patients there were *demented*. ▪ In the movie, he plays a *demented* man trying to survive on the streets of Los Angeles. ▪ Her *demented* ramblings are a symptom of her illness. ▪ He gave me a *demented* little smile. ▪ parents who are almost *demented* with worry

de•men•tia /dɪ'mɛnʃə/ *noun, pl* **-tias** *medical* : a mental illness that causes someone to be unable to think clearly or to understand what is real and what is not real [*noncount*] This patient suffers from *dementia*. [*count*] a new study on age-related *dementias* — see also SENILE DEMENTIA

dem•e•rara sugar /,dɛmə'rɑrə-, ,dɛmə'rerə-/ *noun* [*noncount*] *Brit* : a kind of light brown sugar

D

de•mer•it /dɪ'merət/ *noun, pl* **-its** [*count*]
1 *US* : a mark that is made on the school record of a student who has done something wrong • Students are given *demerits* if they arrive late for classes.
2 *formal* : a bad quality in something or someone : a feature or part of something or someone that is unpleasant — usually plural • The *demerits* of that job outweigh the benefits. • We considered both the ***merits and demerits*** of the plan.

demi- /'dɛmi/ *prefix* : half or partly • *demi*god

demi•god /'dɛmi,gɑ:d/ *noun, pl* **-gods** [*count*]
1 : an extremely impressive or important person : a person who seems like a god in some way • the *demigods* of jazz
2 : a person in mythology who has some of the powers of a god : a being in mythology who is part god and part human • the Greek *demigod* Triton

de•mil•i•ta•rize *also Brit* **de•mil•i•ta•rise** /dɪ'mɪlətə,raɪz/ *verb* **-riz•es**; **-rized**; **-riz•ing** [+ *obj*] : to remove weapons and military forces from (an area) — usually used as *(be) demilitarized* • Analysts predict that the area will not *be* fully *demilitarized* this year. • the ***demilitarized zone*** [=*DMZ*] between North and South Korea — opposite MILITARIZE
– **de•mil•i•ta•ri•za•tion** *also Brit* **de•mil•i•ta•ri•sa•tion** /dɪ,mɪlətərə'zeɪʃən, *Brit* ,dɪ,mɪlətə,raɪ'zeɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*]

de•mise /dɪ'maɪz/ *noun* [*singular*] *formal*
1 : an end of life : DEATH • She had/owned no property at the time of her *demise*. • The musician met an untimely *demise*. • There are several theories about what caused the *demise* [=*extinction*] of the dinosaurs.
2 : the end of something that is thought of as being like a death • We have not had truly local news coverage since the town newspaper's *demise* three years ago. • the company's imminent *demise* • Losing this game will mean/spell the team's *demise*.

de•mist /di'mɪst/ *verb* **-mists**; **-mist•ed**; **-mist•ing** [+ *obj*] *Brit* : DEFOG

demi•tasse /'dɛmɪ,tæs/ *noun, pl* **-tass•es** [*count*] *chiefly US* : a small amount of black coffee that is served in a small cup; *also* : the cup used to serve it

demo /'dɛmoʊ/ *noun, pl* **dem•os** [*count*]
1 : an example of a product that is not yet ready to be sold • She will be showing a *demo* of the company's new alarm system. • a *demo* version of the software
2 : an act of showing someone how something is used or done : DEMONSTRATION • I saw a *demo* on how to use the computer program. • The salesman ***gave us a demo*** of the vacuum cleaner, and it seemed to work very well.
3 : a recording that musicians make in order to show what their music is like • They sent the *demo* to several record companies. • She cut/made a *demo* last week.
4 *Brit, informal* : DEMONSTRATION 2 • an antiwar *demo*

de•mob /di'mɑb/ *verb* **-mobs**; **-mobbed**; **-mob•bing** [+ *obj*] *chiefly Brit* : DEMOBILIZE

de•mo•bi•lize *also Brit* **de•mo•bi•lise** /dɪ'moʊbə,laɪz/ *verb* **-liz•es**; **-lized**; **-liz•ing** [+ *obj*] : to release (someone or something) from military service • Both leaders agreed to *demobilize* their armies and sign the peace treaty. • Ships returned to port to be *demobilized*. [=to be changed so that they were no longer ready for war]
– **de•mo•bi•li•za•tion** *also Brit* **de•mo•bi•li•sa•tion** /dɪ,moʊbələ'zeɪʃən, *Brit* dɪ,moʊbə,laɪ'zeɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*]

de•moc•ra•cy /dɪ'mɑ:krəsi/ *noun, pl* **-cies**
1 a [*noncount*] : a form of government in which people choose leaders by voting • The nation has chosen *democracy* over monarchy. • the principles of *democracy* **b** [*count*] : a country ruled by democracy • In a *democracy*, every citizen should have the right to vote. • Western *democracies*
2 : an organization or situation in which everyone is treated equally and has equal rights [*count*] The company is not a *democracy*; decisions are made by a board of directors, not the workers. [*noncount*] There is *democracy* within the company. — see also SOCIAL DEMOCRACY

dem•o•crat /'dɛmə,kræt/ *noun, pl* **-crats** [*count*]
1 : a person who believes in or supports democracy
2 ***Democrat*** : a member of the Democratic Party of the U.S. • a lifelong *Democrat* — compare REPUBLICAN

dem•o•crat•ic /,dɛmə'krætɪk/ *adj*
1 : based on a form of government in which the people choose leaders by voting : of or relating to democracy • The dictatorship gave way to a *democratic* (form of) government. • *Democratic* elections were held there today for the first time. • the country's new *democratic* constitution • Debates are an important part of the *democratic* process.
2 ***Democratic*** : of or relating to one of the two major political parties in the U.S. • The *Democratic* candidate for governor won the debate. • Most of these policies appeal to *Democratic* voters. • an interview with a leader of the ***Democratic Party*** — compare REPUBLICAN
3 [*more* ~; *most* ~] : relating to the idea that all people should be treated equally • *democratic* principles • The organization works to promote *democratic* reforms/changes around the world. • a more *democratic* society
4 [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* : designed for or liked by most people • *democratic* art • Her article extols the benefits of *democratic* education.
– **dem•o•crat•i•cal•ly** /,dɛmə'krætɪkli/ *adv* • a *democratically* elected leader • Decisions in the company are made *democratically*.

de•moc•ra•tize *also Brit* **de•moc•ra•tise** /dɪ'mɑ:krə,taɪz/ *verb* **-tiz•es**; **-tized**; **-tiz•ing**
1 : to make (a country or organization) more democratic [+ *obj*] Community leaders have had some success in *democratizing* the organization. [*no obj*] There is internal pressure on the government to *democratize*.
2 [+ *obj*] *formal* : to make (something) available to all people : to make it possible for all people to understand (something) • The magazine's goal is to *democratize* art. • an effort to *democratize* politics
– **de•moc•ra•ti•za•tion** *also Brit* **de•moc•ra•ti•sa•tion** /dɪ,mɑ:krətə'zeɪʃən, *Brit* dɪ,mɒkrə,taɪ'zeɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*]

[1]de•mo•graph•ic /,dɛmə'græfɪk/ *noun, pl* **-ics**
1 ***demographics*** [*plural*] : the qualities (such as age, sex, and income) of a specific group of people • The town's *demographics* suggest that the restaurant will do well there. • The newspaper will be making some changes in order to adapt to the region's shifting *demographics*. • The *demographics of* the disease are changing, and we are seeing much younger people being affected by it.
2 [*count*] : a group of people that has a particular set of qualities — usually singular • The magazine is trying to reach a younger/older *demographic*.

[2]demographic *adj* : of or relating to the study of changes that occur in large groups of people over a period of time : of or relating to demography • The *demographic* information shows that the population increased but the average income went down. • *demographic* trends/changes

de•mog•ra•phy /dɪ'mɑ:grəfi/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the study of changes (such as the number of births, deaths, marriages, and illnesses) that occur over a period of time in human populations; *also* : a set of such changes • the shifting *demography* of Europe
– **de•mog•ra•pher** /dɪ'mɑ:grəfɚ/ *noun, pl* **-phers** [*count*]

de•mol•ish /dɪ'mɑ:lɪʃ/ *verb* **-ish•es**; **-ished**; **-ish•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 a : to destroy (a building, bridge, etc.) : to forcefully tear down or take apart (a structure) • The old factory was *demolished* to make way for a new parking lot. • Tons of explosives were used to *demolish* the building. • The town hopes to restore the old theater rather than have it *demolished*. **b** : to damage (something) so that it cannot be repaired • The car was *demolished* in the accident. — often used figuratively • His professional reputation was *demolished* [=*ruined*] by the scandal. • The research *demolished* several myths about the disease. • Her study *demolished* a theory that had gone unquestioned for years.
2 *informal* : to eat all of (something) quickly • We *demolished* [=*devoured*] the pie in only a few minutes.
3 *informal* : to defeat (a person or team) easily or completely • They *demolished* the other team 51–7.

de•mo•li•tion /,dɛmə'lɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** : deliberate destruction of a building or other structure [*noncount*] The old factory is scheduled for *demolition* next week. [*count*] The *demolitions* should be complete by the end of the year. — often used before another noun • He is part of the *demolition* crew/team. • a *demolition* project • a *demolitions* expert — sometimes used figuratively • the *demolition* of several myths about the disease

demolition derby *noun, pl* ~ **-bies** [*count*] *chiefly US* : a contest in which drivers in old cars crash into each other until only one car is still running

de•mon /'di:mən/ *noun, pl* **-mons** [*count*]
1 : an evil spirit • angels and *demons* [=*devils*]

2 *informal* : a person who has a lot of energy or enthusiasm ▪ She is a *demon* for work. = She works ***like a demon***. [=she works very hard] — see also SPEED DEMON

3 : something that causes a person to have a lot of trouble or unhappiness — usually plural ▪ She spent her whole life battling the *demons* of drug and alcohol addiction. ▪ He finally was able to face the *demons* from his unhappy childhood. ▪ his ***inner demons***

demon drink *noun*

the demon drink *Brit, usually humorous* : alcoholic drink ▪ slave to *the demon drink* [=unable to resist drinking alcohol]

de•mo•ni•ac /dɪˈmoʊniˌæk/ *also* **de•mo•ni•a•cal** /ˌdi:məˈnajəkəl/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : DEMONIC ▪ *demoniac* possession ▪ *demoniac* fury/energy

de•mon•ic /dɪˈmɑ:nɪk/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : caused or done by a demon ▪ *demonic* possession : of, relating to, or like a demon ▪ *demonic* cruelty/laughter/energy

de•mon•stra•ble /dɪˈmɑ:nstrəbəl/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *formal* : able to be proven or shown : possible to demonstrate ▪ There is no *demonstrable* evidence that the treatment is effective. ▪ a clearly *demonstrable* improvement

– **de•mon•stra•bly** /dɪˈmɑ:nstrəbli/ *adv* ▪ The statements are *demonstrably* untrue/false.

dem•on•strate /ˈdɛmənˌstreɪt/ *verb* **-strates**; **-strat•ed**; **-strat•ing**

1 [+ *obj*] **a** : to prove (something) by showing examples of it : to show evidence of (something) ▪ Each student must *demonstrate* mastery of the subject matter in order to pass the class. ▪ Employees must *demonstrate* competence in certain skills before they can work independently. ▪ The medication will not be marketed until it is *demonstrated* to be safe. **b** : to prove (something) by being an example of it : to be evidence of (something) ▪ The town's crowded classrooms *demonstrate* [=*point to*] the need for more schools in the area. ▪ The latest test results clearly *demonstrate* that the vaccine works. ▪ The group's failed efforts *demonstrate* how difficult it is to convince people to change their habits.

2 [+ *obj*] : to show (a quality, feeling, etc.) clearly to other people ▪ They have *demonstrated* a willingness to negotiate.

3 [+ *obj*] : to show or explain how something is used or done : to show or explain the function or use of (something) ▪ Several people will be *demonstrating* traditional farming techniques. ▪ The instructor *demonstrated* the correct procedure for pruning a tree. ▪ Would you mind *demonstrating* how the machine works?

4 [*no obj*] : to take part in an event in which people gather together in order to show that they support or oppose something or someone ▪ A large crowd was *demonstrating* [=*protesting*] downtown. ▪ Protesters *demonstrated* against the war.

dem•on•stra•tion /ˌdɛmənˈstreɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**

1 : an act of showing someone how something is used or done [*count*] I went to a sculpture *demonstration* last weekend. ▪ One of the instructors gave/did a *demonstration* of how to prune a tree. ▪ Would you mind giving us *a demonstration* so that we can see how the machine works? [*noncount*] He brought along a copy of the software for *demonstration*. — sometimes used before another noun ▪ We saw a *demonstration* [=*demo*] version of the new software.

2 : an event in which people gather together in order to show that they support or oppose something or someone [*count*] Students took part in several nonviolent/peaceful *demonstrations* against the government. ▪ *demonstrations* against the war = antiwar *demonstrations* ▪ *demonstrations* for women's rights [*noncount*] Protesters marched in *demonstration*.

3 : an act of showing or proving something [*count*] The latest tests are a clear *demonstration* that the vaccine works. — often + *of* ▪ a *demonstration of* their power/loyalty/skill ▪ a *demonstration of* grief/bravery ▪ They brought some bread to share as a *demonstration* [=*token*] *of* goodwill. [*noncount*] Many people sent cards and flowers in *demonstration of* their sympathy.

– **dem•on•stra•tion•al** /ˌdɛmənˈstreɪʃənl/ *adj* ▪ a *demonstrational* video

[1]de•mon•stra•tive /dɪˈmɑ:nstrətɪv/ *adj*

1 [*more ~; most ~*] *formal* : freely and openly showing emotion or feelings ▪ She is more *demonstrative* (about her feelings) than I am. [=she shows her feelings more openly than I do]

2 *grammar* : showing who or what is being referred to ▪ In the phrase "this is my hat," the word "this" is a ***demonstrative pronoun***. ▪ In the phrase "give me that book," the word "that" is a ***demonstrative adjective***.

[2]demonstrative *noun, pl* **-tives** [*count*] : a word (such as "this," "that," "these," or "those") that tells who or what is being referred to

dem•on•stra•tor /ˈdɛmənˌstreɪtɚ/ *noun, pl* **-tors** [*count*]

1 : a person who is part of an event in which people gather together in order to show that they support or oppose something or someone : a person who participates in a demonstration ▪ Thousands of *demonstrators* marched through the streets. ▪ antiwar *demonstrators*

2 : a person who shows other people how something is used or done ▪ a product *demonstrator*

de•mor•al•ize *also Brit* **de•mor•al•ise** /dɪˈmorəˌlaɪz/ *verb* **-iz•es**; **-ized**; **-iz•ing** [+ *obj*] : to cause (someone) to lose hope, courage, or confidence : to weaken the morale of (a person or group) ▪ They *demoralized* [=*discouraged, disheartened*] the other team by scoring three goals in a row.

– **de•mor•al•i•za•tion** /dɪˌmorələˈzeɪʃən, *Brit* dɪˌmɒrəˌlaɪˈzeɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] – **demoralized** *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] ▪ The troops were completely *demoralized*. – **demoralizing** *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] ▪ They suffered a series of *demoralizing* defeats.

de•mote /diˈmoʊt/ *verb* **-motes**; **-mot•ed**; **-mot•ing** [+ *obj*] : to change the rank or position of (someone) to a lower or less important one ▪ Teachers can choose to *demote* a student to a lower grade. ▪ The army major was *demoted* to captain. — opposite PROMOTE

– **de•mo•tion** /dɪˈmoʊʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count, noncount*]

de•mot•ic /dɪˈmɑ:tɪk/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *formal* : popular or common ▪ a more *demotic* way of speaking ▪ *demotic* culture

[1]de•mur /dɪˈmɚ/ *verb* **-murs**; **-murred**; **-mur•ring** [*no obj*] *formal*

1 : to disagree politely with another person's statement or suggestion ▪ She suggested that he would win easily, but he *demurred*, saying he expected the election to be close.

2 : to politely refuse to accept a request or suggestion ▪ A number of people wanted her to run for governor, but she *demurred*. [=*declined*]

[2]demur *noun* [*count*] *chiefly Brit, formal* : an act of disagreeing about something — usually used in the phrase ***without demur*** ▪ She accepted the group's decision *without demur*. [=(more commonly) *without protest*]

de•mure /dɪˈmjʊɚ/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*]

1 : quiet and polite — usually used to describe a woman or girl ▪ a *demure* young lady

2 : not attracting or demanding a lot of attention : not showy or flashy ▪ She was wearing a *demure* gray suit. ▪ the *demure* charm of the cottage ▪ a *demure* personality

– **de•mure•ly** *adv* ▪ a *demurely* dressed young woman ▪ She smiled *demurely*. – **de•mure•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

de•mur•ral /dɪˈmɚrəl/ *noun, pl* **-als** [*count*] *formal* : an act of disagreeing politely about something : an act of demurring ▪ Suggestions that she run for president have been met with repeated *demurrals*.

de•mys•ti•fy /diˈmɪstəˌfaɪ/ *verb* **-fies**; **-fied**; **-fy•ing** [+ *obj*] : to make (something) clear and easy to understand : to explain (something) so that it no longer confuses or mystifies someone ▪ The class is intended to *demystify* the process of using a computer.

– **de•mys•ti•fi•ca•tion** /diˌmɪstəfəˈkeɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*]

den /ˈdɛn/ *noun, pl* **dens** [*count*]

1 : the home of some kinds of wild animals ▪ a fox's *den* [=*lair*] ▪ The bears will spend most of the winter in their *den*. — see also LION'S DEN

2 a *US* : an informal and comfortable room in a house ▪ The TV is in the *den*. **b** *chiefly Brit, informal + old-fashioned* : a small and quiet room in a house where someone goes to read, work, etc. ▪ He spent most evenings in the *den* reading and smoking his pipe.

3 : a secret place where people meet especially to do things that are illegal or immoral ▪ a *den* of thieves ▪ a gambling *den* ▪ an opium *den* ▪ the club's reputation as a ***den of iniquity*** [=a place where immoral or illegal things are done]

4 *Brit* : a small often secret structure that children play in ▪ The children had built themselves a *den* in the woods.

5 *US* : a group of Cub Scouts — see also DEN MOTHER

de•na•tion•al•ize *also* **de•na•tion•al•ise** /diˈnæʃənəˌlaɪz/ *verb* **-iz•es**; **-ized**; **-iz•ing** [+ *obj*] *Brit* : PRIVATIZE

de•ni•able /dɪˈnajəbəl/ *adj* : possible to deny ▪ The failure of

the policy is no longer *deniable*. [=it is no longer reasonable to say that the policy is not failing] — opposite UNDENIABLE

de•ni•al /dɪ'najəl/ *noun, pl* **-als**

1 [*count*] : a statement saying that something is not true or real : a statement in which someone denies something • She issued a flat/absolute/outright *denial* of the charges made against her. • The accusations have met with angry *denials* from school officials. • The city government has been heavily criticized for its *denial* of the seriousness of the situation. • her *denial* of responsibility

2 [*noncount*] *psychology* : a condition in which someone will not admit that something sad, painful, etc., is true or real • I think she's still in ***a state of denial*** about her husband's death. [=she still has not fully accepted that her husband is dead] — often used in the phrase ***in denial*** • He's *in denial* about his drinking problem. [=he will not admit that he drinks too much alcohol]

3 : the act of not allowing someone to have something [*noncount*] The hardest part of the punishment was the *denial* of his right to see his children. • The group is protesting the *denial* of voting rights to convicted felons. • The lawyers were disappointed by the court's *denial* of their motion to dismiss the case. [*count*] — usually singular • Making false statements on a job application will result in a *denial* of employment. • The court has issued a *denial* of their motion. — see also SELF-DENIAL

den•i•grate /'dɛnɪˌgreɪt/ *verb* **-grates**; **-grat•ed**; **-grat•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal*

1 : to say very critical and often unfair things about (someone) • Various groups *denigrated* [=*slandered*, *maligned*] both candidates throughout the presidential campaign. • Her story *denigrates* him as a person and as a teacher.

2 : to make (something) seem less important or valuable • Such behavior *denigrates* [=*belittles*] the value of honesty in the workplace. • No one is trying to *denigrate* the importance of a good education. We all know that it is crucial for success. • *denigrating* the talents and achievements of women

– **den•i•gra•tion** /ˌdɛnɪ'greɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*]

den•im /'dɛnəm/ *noun, pl* **-ims**

1 [*noncount*] : a strong usually blue cotton cloth that is used especially to make jeans — often used before another noun • *denim* jeans • a *denim* skirt/jacket

2 *denims* [*plural*] : pants that are made of denim • He's wearing faded *denims* and cowboy boots.

den•i•zen /'dɛnəzən/ *noun, pl* **-zens** [*count*] : a person, animal, or plant that lives in or often is found in a particular place or region • the city's nightclub *denizens* [=people who often go to nightclubs] — usually + *of* • the *denizens of* the forest • He was well known among the *denizens of* the city's criminal underworld. • *denizens of* the deep [=plants and animals that live in the deepest parts of the ocean]

den mother *noun, pl* ~ **-ers** [*count*] *US* : a woman who is the leader of a group of Cub Scouts

de•nom•i•na•tion /dɪˌnɑːməˈneɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count*]

1 : a religious group • People from several different religious *denominations* participated in the event. • Methodists, Baptists, and other Christian *denominations* • It's one of the more conservative *denominations*.

2 a : the value that a particular coin or bill has • coins of different *denominations* [=pennies, nickels, dimes, etc.] • The kidnappers asked for bills in small *denominations*. **b** : an amount of money that something is worth • The gift certificates are available in $5 and $10 *denominations*.

3 *formal* : a general name for a group or kind • She spoke with people of many different political *denominations*.

– **de•nom•i•na•tion•al** /dɪˌnɑːməˈneɪʃənl/ *adj* • *denominational* differences

de•nom•i•na•tor /dɪˈnɑːməˌneɪtɚ/ *noun, pl* **-tors** [*count*] *mathematics* : the number in a fraction that is below the line and that divides the number above the line • In the fraction ⅔, the numerator is 2 and the *denominator* is 3. — compare NUMERATOR; see also COMMON DENOMINATOR

de•no•ta•tion /ˌdiːnoʊˈteɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count*] : the meaning of a word or phrase • The word has one literal *denotation* but several different connotations. • The definition provides the word's *denotation*. — compare CONNOTATION

de•note /dɪˈnoʊt/ *verb* **-notes**; **-noted**; **-not•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal*

1 *of a word* : to have (something) as a meaning : to mean (something) • The word "derby" can *denote* a horse race or a kind of hat. — compare CONNOTE

2 : to show, mark, or be a sign of (something) • The symbol * next to a name *denotes* [=*indicates*] a contest finalist. • Her death *denoted* the end of an era.

de•noue•ment *also* **dé•noue•ment** /ˌdeɪˌnuːˈmɑːn/ *noun, pl* **-ments** [*count*] *formal* : the final part of something (such as a book, a play, or a series of events) • In the play's *denouement*, the two lovers kill themselves. • the competition's exciting *denouement*

de•nounce /dɪˈnaʊns/ *verb* **-nounc•es**; **-nounced**; **-nounc•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to publicly state that someone or something is bad or wrong : to criticize (someone or something) harshly and publicly • The government called on the group to *denounce* the use of violence. • *denouncing* their political enemies • The film was *denounced* for the way it portrayed its female characters. — often + *as* • The film was *denounced* [=*condemned*] *as* sexist. • His former followers now *denounce* him *as* a traitor. • The plan was *denounced as* risky and dangerous.

2 : to report (someone) *to* the police or other authorities for illegal or immoral acts — often + *as* • She had to flee the country after being *denounced as* a spy *to* government authorities.

dense /'dɛns/ *adj* **dens•er**; **-est** [*or more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : having parts that are close together • They cut a path through the *dense* jungle. • *dense* undergrowth • The book's pages were *dense* [=*packed*, *filled*] with helpful ideas. • the cat's *dense* [=*thick*] coat of fur • a *dense* tangle of wires • heavy, *dense* bread • a *dense* cluster of stars

2 : crowded with people • That part of the city has a *dense* population of immigrants. • A *dense* mass of spectators filled the courtroom.

3 *informal* : not smart : not able to understand things easily • I'm sorry to be so *dense* [=*slow-witted*, *stupid*, *dumb*] this morning. • In the movie, she plays his kind but somewhat *dense* aunt.

4 : difficult to see through • We drove though *dense* [=*thick*] fog/smoke.

5 : difficult to understand; *especially* : hard to read • The book's technical subject and *dense* prose will discourage many readers.

6 *technical* : heavier than most things of the same size • a *dense* substance like lead or mercury • a disease that causes bones to become less *dense* [=to become less solid and heavy]

– **dense•ly** *adv* • a *densely* populated area [=an area in which many people live] • *densely* forested mountains • a *densely* packed sports arena – **dense•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

den•si•ty /'dɛnsəti/ *noun, pl* **-ties**

1 [*noncount*] : the quality or state of being dense: such as **a** : the quality of having parts that are close together • the jungle's *density* **b** : the quality of being difficult to see through • We were surprised by the fog's *density*. **c** : the quality of being difficult to understand • the *density* of her writing style

2 : the amount of something in a particular space or area [*count*] This part of the country has a high ***population density***. [=many people live in this part of the country] [*noncount*] There has been an increase in (population) *density* in this area.

3 *technical* : the amount of matter in something that is shown by the relationship between its weight and size [*count*] metals with different *densities* • These instruments are used for measuring the *density* of the atmosphere. [*noncount*] older women who have lost bone *density* [=whose bones are less solid and heavy]

[1]dent /'dɛnt/ *noun, pl* **dents** [*count*] : an area on a surface that is lower than the rest of the surface especially because of being hit or pushed in • The accident left/made a small *dent* in the car's fender. • a few small *dents* in the wall

make/put a dent ✧ In figurative use, to ***make a dent (in something)*** or to ***put a dent in something*** is to decrease something slightly or to make it somewhat weaker. • **We tried our best to fix the problem, but nothing we did seems** to have *made a dent*. [=nothing we did has had any effect] • It's going to take more than a new law to *make a dent in* the city's drug crime. [=a new law is not enough to decrease the city's drug crime] • The $10,000 payment hardly *makes a dent in* the amount the company owes. • a vacation that won't *put* too big *a dent in* your wallet [=a vacation that will not cost a lot of money]

[2]dent *verb* **dents**; **dent•ed**; **dent•ing**

1 : to make a dent in (something) [+ *obj*] I'm afraid I *dented* the wall pretty badly when I was hammering in that nail. • He

dented his (car's) fender in the accident. ▪ Many of the cans were badly *dented*. [*no obj*] Some types of metal *dent* more easily than others.

2 [+ *obj*] : to decrease (something) : to make (something) weaker ▪ The team's confidence has been *dented* by a recent series of losses.

den•tal /ˈdɛntl̩/ *adj* : of or relating to teeth or to the work dentists do ▪ *dental* decay ▪ your ***dental records*** [=the information about your teeth that your dentist has] ▪ She decided to go to ***dental school***. [=a school where you are trained to be a dentist]

dental floss *noun* [*noncount*] : a special thread that is used to clean between your teeth — see picture at GROOMING

dental hygienist *noun, pl* ~ **-ists** [*count*] : a person who works with a dentist and whose job includes cleaning people's teeth

dente see AL DENTE

den•tist /ˈdɛntəst/ *noun, pl* **-tists** [*count*]

1 : a person whose job is to care for people's teeth ▪ I have an appointment with my *dentist* today. = I have a *dentist* appointment today.

2 ***the dentist*** *or* ***the dentist's*** : the place where a dentist works ▪ I saw her at *the dentist* last week. ▪ He goes to *the dentist's* for a check-up every six months.

den•tist•ry /ˈdɛntəstri/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the work that a dentist does ▪ a career in *dentistry*

den•ture /ˈdɛnʧɚ/ *noun, pl* **-tures** [*count*] : a set of artificial teeth — usually plural ▪ She takes out her *dentures* before going to bed. ▪ a new pair of *dentures* [=*false teeth*] ▪ partial *dentures* [=a partial set of artificial teeth]

de•nude /dɪˈnuːd, *Brit* dɪˈnjuːd/ *verb* **-nudes**; **-nud•ed**; **-nud•ing** [+ *obj*] : to remove all the trees from (an area) or all the leaves from (a tree) ▪ Excessive logging has *denuded* the hillside of trees. — usually used as *(be) denuded* ▪ a countryside *denuded* by wildfires ▪ a landscape of *denuded* trees — sometimes used figuratively ▪ people *denuded* of hope [=people who have lost all hope]

de•nun•ci•a•tion /dɪˌnʌnsiˈeɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** : a public statement that strongly criticizes someone or something as being bad or wrong : a statement that denounces something or someone [*count*] The attack drew strong *denunciations* from leaders around the world. ▪ a *denunciation* of violence [*noncount*] a letter of *denunciation*

Den•ver boot /ˈdɛnvɚ-/ *noun, pl* ~ **boots** [*count*] *US* : an object that the police lock onto one of the wheels of a car so that the car cannot be moved ✧ A Denver boot is usually placed on a car in order to force the car's owner to pay money that is owed for parking illegally. — called also (*US*) *boot*, (*Brit*) *clamp*, (*Brit*) *wheel clamp*

de•ny /dɪˈnaɪ/ *verb* **-nies**; **-nied**; **-ny•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 a : to say that something is not true ▪ He *denied* the report that he would be quitting his job. ▪ She *denies* all the charges that have been made against her. ▪ I don't *deny* that I have made some mistakes. [=I admit that I have made some mistakes] ▪ They are still *denying* (that) the problem exists. ▪ The police *deny* that racism is a problem in the department. ▪ Yes, I was there. I don't *deny* it. ▪ ***There's no denying*** [=it is clearly true] that he knows how to run a successful company. **b** : to refuse to accept or admit (something) ▪ You can't *deny* her beauty. = You can't *deny* that she is beautiful. ▪ She *denied* responsibility [=she said that she was not responsible] for the error.

2 : to refuse to give (something) to someone : to prevent someone from having or receiving (something) ▪ The banks *denied* [=*refused*] them credit. ▪ The judge *denied* their request. ▪ I don't want to *deny* them this pleasure. = I don't want to *deny* this pleasure to them. ▪ a government that *denies* its citizens basic freedoms — see also *denied bail* at [1]BAIL

deny yourself : to not allow yourself to enjoy things or to have the things that you want ▪ On this diet, I don't feel like I'm *denying myself*. ▪ I'm not *denying myself* the foods that I love, I'm just eating smaller amounts. ▪ He's always *denied himself* the simple pleasures in life.

de•odor•ant /diˈoʊdərənt/ *noun, pl* **-ants** [*count, noncount*] : a substance that you put on your body and especially under your arms to prevent, remove, or hide unpleasant smells — see picture at GROOMING; compare ANTIPERSPIRANT

– **deodorant** *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ *deodorant* soap

de•odor•ize *also Brit* **de•odor•ise** /diˈoʊdəˌraɪz/ *verb* **-iz•es**; **-ized**; **-iz•ing** [+ *obj*] : to remove an unpleasant smell from (something) ▪ We had the carpet cleaned and *deodorized*.

– **de•odor•iz•er** *also Brit* **de•odor•is•er** *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] ▪ room *deodorizers*

de•oxy•ri•bo•nu•cle•ic acid /diˈɑːksiˌraɪboʊnuˈkliːjɪk-/ *noun* [*noncount*] *technical* : DNA

dep. *abbr* depart; departure ▪ flight 348 *dep*. 8:30 a.m.

de•part /dɪˈpɑɚt/ *verb* **-parts**; **-part•ed**; **-part•ing**

1 *somewhat formal* **a** : to leave a place especially to start a journey [*no obj*] The group is scheduled to *depart* tomorrow at 8:00 a.m. ▪ Our flight *departs* at 6:15 a.m. ▪ The train *departed* (from the station) on time. [+ *obj*] (*US*) ▪ The train *departed* the station on time. **b** [*no obj*] : to leave a job or position ▪ He is *departing* after 20 years with the company. ▪ She is replacing the *departing* manager. [=the manager who is leaving that job]

2 [*no obj*] : to change something or do something in a different way — usually + *from* ▪ The river *departs* [=*turns, deviates*] *from* its original course a few miles downstream. ▪ The actors were not allowed to *depart from* the script. [=they were not allowed to say anything that was not in the script] ▪ The company's managers don't want to *depart from* an approach that has worked well in the past. [=they do not want to change their approach]

depart this life *formal* : to die ▪ My aunt *departed this life* at the age of 92.

departed *adj*

1 *somewhat formal* : no longer living — used as a polite way to say that someone is dead ▪ We have come to say goodbye to our dear *departed* friend. ▪ his recently *departed* father

2 *literary* : existing in the past ▪ These clothes recall the elegance of a *departed* [=*bygone*] era.

the departed : people who have died ▪ They left flowers at the graves of *the departed*. ▪ the spirits of *the departed*

de•part•ment /dɪˈpɑɚtmənt/ *noun, pl* **-ments** [*count*]

1 : one of the major parts of a company, organization, government, or school ▪ Your letter has been forwarded to our sales *department*. ▪ When you get to the hospital, go directly to the X-ray *department*. ▪ the country's energy *department* ▪ the *Department* of Defense = the Defense *Department* ▪ the county sheriff's *department* ▪ the university's math and science *departments* ▪ the *department* of modern languages ▪ the college's athletic *department* ▪ She joined the town's ***police department***. — abbr. *dept*.; see also FIRE DEPARTMENT

2 : an area in a store where a particular kind of product is sold ▪ the toy *department* ▪ "Which *department* should we go to first?" "I'd like to start in the men's *department*." [=the part of the store that sells clothing for men]

3 *informal* **a** : a subject or activity that a person is interested in or responsible for ▪ Taking care of the cat is not my *department*. [=*responsibility*] **b** *often humorous* — used to say that someone or something has or does not have a particular quality ▪ She's sweet, but she's somewhat lacking in the intelligence *department*. [=she is not very intelligent] ▪ He does pretty well in the looks *department*. [=he is attractive] ▪ Both cars do well in the safety *department*. [=both cars are safe to drive]

– **de•part•men•tal** /dɪˌpɑɚtˈmɛntl̩/ *adj* ▪ *departmental* responsibilities ▪ the *departmental* budget

de•part•men•tal•ize *also Brit* **de•part•men•tal•ise** /dɪˌpɑɚtˈmɛntəˌlaɪz/ *verb* **-iz•es**; **-ized**; **-iz•ing** [+ *obj*] : to divide (something, such as a company) into departments ▪ The organization is highly *departmentalized*.

department store *noun, pl* ~ **stores** [*count*] : a large store that has separate areas in which different kinds of products are sold

de•par•ture /dɪˈpɑɚʧɚ/ *noun, pl* **-tures**

1 : the act of departing: such as **a** : the act of leaving a place especially to start a journey [*noncount*] What is your time of *departure*? ▪ Our *departure* is scheduled for 5 p.m. = Our *departure* time is 5 p.m. ▪ They had to postpone (their) *departure* because of bad weather. ▪ You should plan to arrive at the airport an hour before *departure*. ▪ the ferry's *departure* point [*count*] a schedule of arrivals and *departures* **b** [*count*] : the act of leaving a job, an organization, etc. ▪ The *departures* of several key employees have caused problems for the company. ▪ her sudden *departure* from the company ▪ The team has struggled since the *departure* of its head coach.

2 [*count*] : a new or different way of doing something ▪ His previous movies have all been comedies, so this dramatic role is a real *departure* for him. — often + *from* ▪ These new techniques are major/dramatic/radical *departures* from stan-

dard practices. ▪ a *departure from* tradition — see also POINT OF DEPARTURE

de•pend /dɪˈpɛnd/ *verb* **-pends**; **-pend•ed**; **-pend•ing** [*no obj*] *informal* — used in speech in phrases like ***it depends*** and ***that depends*** to say that the answer to a question will be different in different situations ▪ "Are you going to the party?" "I might. *It depends*." [=I do not know yet; there may be something that prevents me from being able to go or from wanting to go] ▪ "Do you think you'll go back to college?" "*It all depends*. I will if I can afford it." ▪ "Which team do you think will win?" "*That depends*. If all of our players are healthy, I think we'll win." ▪ (*very informal*) "How long does it take to get to the airport?" "*Depends*. If you're going during rush hour it'll take at least an hour. If not, you can probably be there in 20 minutes."

depend on/upon [*phrasal verb*] ***depend on/upon (someone or something)*** **1** : to be determined or decided by (something) ▪ We're not sure if we'll have the picnic. It *depends on* the weather. [=if the weather is good we will have the picnic] ▪ "Will you go back to college?" "I don't know. It *depends on* whether or not I can afford it." ▪ The stamp's value *depends on* how rare it is. ▪ *Depending upon* your child's weight and height, she or he may have to sit in the back seat of the car. ▪ It's not clear how many people were at the rally. Reports vary between 10,000 and 20,000, *depending on* who's counting. [=some people report that there were 10,000 people at the rally, others report that there were 20,000] — sometimes used informally without *on* or *upon* ▪ "Are you happy?" "It *depends* what you mean by 'happy.'" — see also *life depends on* at ¹LIFE **2** : to need (someone or something) for support, help, etc. ▪ He no longer *depends on* [=*relies on*] his parents for money. ▪ They *depend* heavily/largely/solely/entirely *on* her income to pay the bills. [=without her income they would not be able to pay their bills] **3** : to be sure about (someone or something) : to trust (someone or something) ▪ She's someone you can always *depend on*. [=*count on*] ▪ She will be remembered as a woman *upon* whom people could *depend*. ▪ The manufacturer promises quality you can *depend on*. — sometimes used humorously ▪ You could always *depend on* him to disagree. [=you could always be sure that he would disagree] ▪ I can always *depend on* it to rain on days when I forget my umbrella.

de•pend•able /dɪˈpɛndəbəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : able to be trusted to do or provide what is needed : able to be depended on ▪ The old well is a *dependable* source of water. [=there is always water in the old well] ▪ a *dependable* [=*reliable*] old car ▪ He's the team's most *dependable* [=*consistent*] player.

– **de•pend•abil•i•ty** /dɪˌpɛndəˈbɪlətɪ/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the car's proven *dependability* [=*reliability*] – **de•pend•ably** /dɪˈpɛndəblɪ/ *adv* ▪ a plant that will bloom *dependably* [=*reliably*], year after year

de•pen•dence /dɪˈpɛndəns/ *noun* : the state of being dependent: such as **a** : the state of needing something or someone else for support, help, etc. — + *on* or *upon* [*noncount*] The company was hurt by its *dependence on* government loans. ▪ Our *dependence upon* foreign oil makes our economy vulnerable. [*singular*] a harmful *dependence* on foreign oil **b** : the state of being addicted to alcohol or a drug [*noncount*] drug and alcohol *dependence* [=*addiction, dependency*] [*singular*] — usually + *on* ▪ She eventually developed a *dependence on* the painkillers she was taking.

de•pen•den•cy /dɪˈpɛndənsɪ/ *noun, pl* **-cies**

1 : the quality of being dependent : DEPENDENCE [*noncount*] the country's *dependency* on foreign oil ▪ drug/chemical *dependency* [=*addiction*] [*singular*] a *dependency* on foreign oil

2 [*count*] : an area that is controlled by a country but that is not formally a part of it

¹de•pen•dent /dɪˈpɛndənt/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : decided or controlled by something else — + *on* or *upon* ▪ The stamp's value is *dependent on* how rare it is. ▪ She believes that success is *dependent upon* hard work. ▪ Whether or not we go is entirely *dependent on* the weather.

2 : needing someone or something else for support, help, etc. ▪ soldiers with *dependent* children [=soldiers who have children whose food, clothing, etc., they are responsible for providing] — usually + *on* or *upon* ▪ The region's economy is heavily/highly/largely *dependent on* tourism. ▪ They're entirely *dependent on* her income to pay the bills. ▪ He remained financially *dependent on* his parents even as an adult. ▪ children who are emotionally *dependent on* their mothers ▪ The theater is *dependent upon* the generosity of its patrons to pay for basic operating expenses.

3 : addicted to alcohol or a drug ▪ He has been alcohol *dependent* for several years. ▪ ***chemically dependent*** patients [=patients who are addicted to a drug]

²dependent *also Brit* **de•pen•dant** /dɪˈpɛndənt/ *noun, pl* **-ents** [*count*] : a person (such as a child) whose food, clothing, etc., you are responsible for providing ▪ The insurance provides coverage for workers and their *dependents*. ▪ a person's spouse and *dependents* ▪ Do you have any *dependents*?

dependent clause *noun, pl* ~ **clauses** [*count*] *grammar* : SUBORDINATE CLAUSE

de•pict /dɪˈpɪkt/ *verb* **-picts**; **-pict•ed**; **-pict•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to show (someone or something) in a picture, painting, photograph, etc. ▪ The wall was painted with a large mural *depicting* famous scenes from American history. ▪ Several of the architect's most famous buildings will soon be *depicted* on postage stamps. ▪ The photograph *depicts* the two brothers standing in front of a store. ▪ Angels are usually *depicted* with wings. ▪ In the drawing, the magic cap was *depicted* as a soft, black hat.

2 : to describe (someone or something) using words, a story, etc. ▪ The movie *depicts* the life of early settlers. ▪ I like the way she *depicts* the characters in her novels. ▪ His enemies *depict* [=*portray*] him as a cruel and dangerous leader.

– **de•pic•tion** /dɪˈpɪkʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count*] an honest *depiction* of life in the city [*noncount*] The book is fascinating in its *depiction* of the country's early history.

de•pil•a•to•ry /dɪˈpɪləˌtorɪ, *Brit* dɪˈpɪlətrɪ/ *noun, pl* **-ries** [*count*] : a substance that removes body hair you do not want

– **depilatory** *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ a *depilatory* cream

de•plane /diˈpleɪn/ *verb* **-planes**; **-planed**; **-plan•ing** [*no obj*] *chiefly US* : to get out of an airplane after it arrives at an airport ▪ We were the last passengers to *deplane*. [=get off the plane]

de•plete /dɪˈpliːt/ *verb* **-pletes**; **-plet•ed**; **-plet•ing** [+ *obj*] : to use most or all of (something important) : to greatly reduce the amount of (something) ▪ Activities such as logging and mining *deplete* our natural resources. ▪ We completely *depleted* our life savings when we bought our new house. — often used as *(be) depleted* ▪ The soil has *been depleted* by years of drought. ▪ lakes and rivers that *are depleted* of fish ▪ *depleted* soil ▪ the country's badly *depleted* resources

– **de•ple•tion** /dɪˈpliːʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count*] a *depletion* of the water supply [*noncount*] the *depletion* of the ozone layer = ozone *depletion*

de•plor•able /dɪˈplorəbəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : very bad in a way that causes shock, fear, or disgust : deserving to be deplored ▪ The company has shown a *deplorable* [=*appalling, unconscionable*] lack of concern for the environment. ▪ children living in *deplorable* [=*horrible, disgusting, terrible*] conditions ▪ *deplorable* ignorance

– **de•plor•ably** /dɪˈplorəblɪ/ *adv* ▪ *deplorably* cruel

de•plore /dɪˈploə/ *verb* **-plores**; **-plored**; **-plor•ing** [+ *obj*] : to hate or dislike (something) very much : to strongly disapprove of (something) ▪ We *deplore* the development of nuclear weapons. ▪ Many people *deplored* the change. ▪ Although *deplored* by many, her decisions have greatly benefited the company.

de•ploy /dɪˈplɔɪ/ *verb* **-ploys**; **-ployed**; **-ploy•ing**

1 [+ *obj*] : to organize and send out (people or things) to be used for a particular purpose ▪ The troops were *deployed* for battle. ▪ They plan to *deploy* more American soldiers over the next six months. ▪ Two scientists were *deployed* to study the problem. ▪ Both campaigns are *deploying* volunteers to the cities to encourage people to vote. ▪ Equipment and supplies have been *deployed* across the country. ▪ He *deploys* several arguments to prove his point.

2 : to open up and spread out the parts of (something, such as a parachute) [+ *obj*] Wait several seconds before *deploying* the parachute. ▪ The boat's sails were not fully *deployed*. [*no obj*] The parachute failed to *deploy* properly.

– **de•ploy•ment** /dɪˈplɔɪmənt/ *noun, pl* **-ments** [*count*] additional troop *deployments* ▪ a monthlong *deployment* [*noncount*] the *deployment* of ground troops

de•po•lit•i•cize *also Brit* **de•po•lit•i•cise** /ˌdiːpəˈlɪtəˌsaɪz/ *verb* **-ciz•es**; **-cized**; **-ciz•ing** [+ *obj*] : to change (something) so that it is no longer influenced or controlled by politics ▪ She says we need to *depoliticize* the process by which

judges are chosen. ▪ The humanitarian aid groups want to see foreign aid *depoliticized*. — opposite POLITICIZE

– **de•po•lit•i•ci•za•tion** *also Brit* **de•po•lit•i•ci•sa•tion** /ˌdi:pəˌlɪtəsəˈzeɪʃən, *Brit* ˌdi:pəˌlɪtəˌsaɪˈzeɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*]

de•pop•u•late /diˈpɑ:pjəˌleɪt/ *verb* **-lates**; **-lat•ed**; **-lat•ing** [+ *obj*] : to greatly reduce the number of people living in (a city, region, etc.) ▪ Large areas of the country had been *depopulated* by disease. ▪ an empty, *depopulated* landscape

– **de•pop•u•la•tion** /diˌpɑ:pjəˈleɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*]

de•port /dɪˈpoət/ *verb* **-ports**; **-port•ed**; **-port•ing** [+ *obj*] : to force (a person who is not a citizen) to leave a country ▪ Thousands of immigrants had been illegally *deported*.

– **de•por•ta•tion** /ˌdi:ˌpoəˈteɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*noncount*] She is now facing *deportation*. [=she may be forced to leave the country] ▪ a *deportation* hearing [*count*] The government has ordered thousands of *deportations*. – **de•por•tee** /diˌpoəˈti:/ *noun, pl* **-tees** [*count*] ▪ thousands of *deportees* [=people who have been deported]

de•port•ment /dɪˈpoətmənt/ *noun* [*noncount*] *formal* : the way that a person behaves, stands, and moves especially in a formal situation ▪ The new students were instructed in proper dress and *deportment*. ▪ His stiff *deportment* matched his strict demeanor.

de•pose /dɪˈpouz/ *verb* **-pos•es**; **-posed**; **-pos•ing** [+ *obj*] : to remove (someone) from a powerful position ▪ The group is plotting to *depose* [=*overthrow*] the king. ▪ a *deposed* military leader

[1]de•pos•it /dɪˈpɑ:zət/ *verb* **-its**; **-it•ed**; **-it•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to put (money) in a bank account ▪ Your paycheck will be automatically *deposited* into your account. ▪ I *deposited* over $3,000 this afternoon.

2 *somewhat formal* : to put or leave (someone or something) in a particular place ▪ He carefully *deposited* [=(more commonly) *put, placed*] the tools in the trunk of his car. ▪ Please *deposit* your things in your room and return to the hotel lobby. ▪ The taxi *deposited* us at the train station.

3 : to leave an amount of (something, such as sand, snow, or mud) on a surface or area especially over a period of time ▪ layers of mud *deposited* by flood waters ▪ The storm may *deposit* [=*leave*] up to three feet of snow in some areas.

– **de•pos•i•tor** /dɪˈpɑ:zətə/ *noun, pl* **-tors** [*count*] ▪ bank *depositors* [=people who put money in a bank account]

[2]deposit *noun, pl* **-its** [*count*]

1 : an amount of money that is put in a bank account ▪ a bank *deposit* ▪ a *deposit* of $3,000 ▪ savings *deposits* [=money put into savings accounts] ▪ I need to ***make a deposit*** [=put some money in a bank account] this afternoon. ▪ Our records show that she *made* a large *deposit* to her account earlier in the month. — opposite WITHDRAWAL; see also DIRECT DEPOSIT, SAFE-DEPOSIT BOX

2 a : money that you give someone when you agree to buy something (such as a house or car) ✧ A *deposit* shows that there is an agreement between a buyer and seller. When the sale is made final, the seller keeps the deposit as the first payment. ▪ He just put a *deposit* on a new house. ▪ The company will refund your *deposit* since they are unable to do the project for you. **b** : money that you pay when you buy or rent something and that you can get back if you return the thing or leave it in good condition ▪ If you return that empty soda can, you'll get back the five-cent *deposit* you paid when you bought the soda. ▪ The rental car company requires a *deposit* for drivers under the age of 25. — see also SECURITY DEPOSIT

3 a : an amount of something (such as sand, snow, or mud) that has formed or been left on a surface or area over a period of time ▪ a *deposit* of mud left by the flood ▪ He had surgery to remove calcium *deposits* from his knee. ▪ the buildup of fat/fatty *deposits* in the arteries **b** : an amount of a substance (such as oil or coal) that exists naturally in the ground ▪ Their company has discovered new oil *deposits* below the ocean floor. ▪ mineral *deposits*

on deposit ✧ Money that has been put in a bank is *on deposit*. ▪ The company has millions of dollars *on deposit* with several foreign banks. ▪ money/funds *on deposit* in/at the bank

deposit account *noun, pl* ~ **-counts** [*count*] *chiefly Brit* : SAVINGS ACCOUNT

de•po•si•tion /ˌdɛpəˈzɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**

1 [*count*] *law* : a formal statement that someone who has promised to tell the truth makes so that the statement can be used in court; *especially* : a formal statement that is made before a trial by a witness who will not be present at the trial ▪ She gave a videotaped *deposition* about what she saw that night. ▪ His attorneys took *depositions* from the witnesses.

2 [*noncount*] *technical* : the action of depositing something (such as sand, snow, or mud) on a surface or area especially over a period of time ▪ the *deposition* of sand and gravel on the river bed

3 [*count, noncount*] *formal* : the act removing someone from a powerful position : the act of deposing someone ▪ *deposition* of the king

de•pos•i•to•ry /dɪˈpɑ:zəˌtori, *Brit* dɪˈpɒzətri/ *noun, pl* **-ries** [*count*] : a place where something is put so that is can be kept safe ▪ a book/food *depository* ▪ The bank is used as a *depository* for government funds.

deposit slip *noun, pl* ~ **slips** [*count*] *US* : a piece of paper that you give with a bank deposit to show how much money you are putting in an account — called also (*Brit*) *paying-in slip*

de•pot /ˈdɛpoʊ, ˈdi:poʊ/ *noun, pl* **depots** [*count*]

1 *US* : a train or bus station ▪ the train/bus *depot*

2 : a place where military supplies are kept or where soldiers are trained ▪ supply/weapons *depots*

3 : a place where goods are stored : STOREHOUSE ▪ a storage *depot*

de•praved /dɪˈpreɪvd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : very evil : having or showing an evil and immoral character ▪ a *depraved* criminal ▪ the work of *depraved* minds ▪ He acted with *depraved* indifference to human suffering.

de•prav•i•ty /dɪˈprævəti/ *noun, pl* **-ties**

1 [*noncount*] : a very evil quality or way of behaving ▪ He was sinking into a life of utter *depravity*. ▪ moral/sexual *depravity* ▪ People were shocked by the *depravity* of her actions.

2 [*count*] : an evil or immoral act ▪ the *depravities* of war

dep•re•cate /ˈdɛprɪˌkeɪt/ *verb* **-cates**; **-cat•ed**; **-cat•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to criticize or express disapproval of (someone or something) ▪ I don't mean to *deprecate* [=*belittle*, *minimize*] his accomplishments.

– **deprecating** *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ Her office issued an apology after she made some *deprecating* remarks about her opponent. — see also SELF-DEPRECATING – **dep•re•ca•tion** /ˌdɛprɪˈkeɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the *deprecation* of old methods – **dep•re•ca•to•ry** /ˈdɛprɪˌkeɪtəri, ˈdɛprɪkəˌtori, *Brit* ˈdɛprɪkeɪtri/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ She had made some *deprecatory* remarks about her opponent.

de•pre•ci•ate /dɪˈpri:ʃiˌeɪt/ *verb* **-ates**; **-at•ed**; **-at•ing**

1 a [+ *obj*] : to cause (something) to have a lower price or value ▪ These changes have greatly *depreciated* the value of the house. **b** [*no obj*] : to decrease in value ▪ New cars *depreciate* rapidly. ▪ The value of the house has *depreciated* greatly. — opposite APPRECIATE

2 [+ *obj*] *formal* : to describe (something) as having little value ▪ He often *depreciates* [=*disparages*, *belittles*] the importance of his work.

de•pre•ci•a•tion /dɪˌpri:ʃiˈeɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 : a decrease in the value of something ▪ You'll need to estimate the car's *depreciation*. ▪ currency *depreciation* — opposite APPRECIATION

2 *formal* : the act of making a person or a thing seem less valuable ▪ the *depreciation* of the role of art in our schools

dep•re•da•tion /ˌdɛprəˈdeɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** *formal* : a usually violent act in which something is damaged or destroyed or in which a person or animal is killed [*count*] — usually plural ▪ The town had somehow escaped the *depredations* of enemy soldiers. [*noncount*] a brutal act of *depredation* ▪ trying to prevent livestock *depredation* by wolves

de•press /dɪˈprɛs/ *verb* **-press•es**; **-pressed**; **-press•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to make (someone) feel sad : to make (someone) depressed ▪ The news seemed to *depress* him a little. ▪ I don't mean to *depress* you, but there's no way we can win. ▪ We were all *depressed* by the loss. ▪ You shouldn't let this kind of problem *depress* you.

2 : to decrease the activity or strength of (something) ▪ This medicine may *depress* [=*decrease*] your appetite. [=it may make you less hungry] ▪ These changes could *depress* the economy. ▪ Market conditions are likely to *depress* earnings in the next quarter. ▪ *depressing* the price of a stock

3 *formal* : to press (something) down ▪ Slowly *depress* the car's brake pedal. ▪ *Depress* the "shift" key on your keyboard. ▪ The doctor will *depress* your tongue and look at your throat.

de•pres•sant /dɪˈprɛsnt/ *noun, pl* **-sants** [*count*] : a chem-

ical substance (such as a drug) that makes a body's systems less active ▪ alcohol and other *depressants* — see also ANTIDEPRESSANT
– **depressant** *adj* ▪ the *depressant* effects of alcohol

de•pressed /dɪ'prɛst/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*]
1 a : feeling sad ▪ I've been feeling a little *depressed* [=(informally) *down*, *blue*] lately. ▪ The rainy weather had her feeling lonely and *depressed*. ▪ He was *depressed* about having to return to school. ▪ in a *depressed* mood **b :** having a serious medical condition that causes a person to feel very sad, hopeless, and unimportant : suffering from mental depression ▪ The new drug is being tested on a group of severely *depressed* patients.
2 : having little economic activity and few jobs : suffering from economic depression ▪ living in a *depressed* area ▪ a *depressed* economy
3 : less strong, active, high, etc., than usual ▪ The patient has a somewhat *depressed* appetite. ▪ Prices have remained at a *depressed* level.

depressing *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : causing someone to feel sad or without hope : causing depression ▪ This rainy weather is *depressing*. ▪ He paints a *depressing* picture of modern life. ▪ a very/deeply *depressing* movie
– **de•press•ing•ly** *adv* ▪ *depressingly* bad weather ▪ a *depressingly* familiar situation

de•pres•sion /dɪ'prɛʃən/ *noun, pl* **-sions**
1 [*noncount*] **a :** a state of feeling sad ▪ anger, anxiety, and *depression* **b :** a serious medical condition in which a person feels very sad, hopeless, and unimportant and often is unable to live in a normal way ▪ She has been undergoing treatment for severe/deep *depression*. ▪ Many people suffer from clinical *depression* for years before being diagnosed. ▪ bouts/periods of *depression* — see also MANIC DEPRESSION
2 : a period of time in which there is little economic activity and many people do not have jobs [*count*] After several years of an economic boom, it looks as though we may be heading toward a *depression*. ▪ He grew up during ***the (Great) Depression***. [=the 1930s, when the U.S. and many other countries were in a very bad depression] [*noncount*] periods of economic *depression*
3 [*count*] : an area on a surface that is lower than other parts : a low spot ▪ The photographs show *depressions* in the moon's surface.
4 [*count*] *weather* : a large area where there is low pressure in the atmosphere with usually clouds and rain ▪ a tropical *depression*

de•pres•sive /dɪ'prɛsɪv/ *adj, medical* : of or relating to the medical condition of depression ▪ a *depressive* disorder/illness — see also MANIC-DEPRESSIVE
– **depressive** *noun, pl* **-sives** [*count*] ▪ treatment of *depressives* [=people who suffer from depression]

dep•ri•va•tion /ˌdɛprə'veɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** : the state of not having something that people need : the state of being deprived of something [*noncount*] She is studying the effects of sleep *deprivation*. ▪ social/emotional *deprivation* [*count*] She eventually overcame the *deprivations* of her childhood.

de•prive /dɪ'praɪv/ *verb* **-prives**; **-prived**; **-priv•ing**
deprive of [*phrasal verb*] ***deprive (someone or something) of (something)*** : to take something away from someone or something : to not allow (someone or something) to have or keep (something) ▪ The change in her status *deprived* her *of* access to classified information. ▪ The new environmental law will *deprive* some fishermen *of* their livelihood. ▪ They're *depriving* him *of* a chance to succeed. ▪ I don't want to *deprive* you *of* this opportunity to meet new people. — often used as *(be) deprived of* ▪ The children are *being deprived of* a good education. ▪ The study is examining what happens to people when they *are deprived of* sleep.

deprived *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : not having the things that are needed for a good or healthy life ▪ emotionally *deprived* children ▪ The diet allows you to eat small amounts of your favorite foods, so you won't feel *deprived*. ▪ people who are ***sleep-deprived*** [=people who do not get enough sleep]

dept. *abbr* department

depth /'dɛpθ/ *noun, pl* **depths**
1 a : a distance below a surface [*count*] These fish typically live at *depths* of 500 feet or more. ▪ Students will test the temperature of the water at different/varying/various *depths*. ▪ shallow/great *depths* ▪ The boat sank to a *depth* of several hundred feet. ▪ measuring the *depth* of the water/river/sea ▪ the *depth* of a hole ▪ The pool has a *depth* of 12 feet. [*noncount*] The pool is 12 feet ***in depth***. [=12 feet deep] **b** [*count*] : the distance from the front of something to the back — usually singular ▪ Measure the height, width, and *depth* of the cabinet. ▪ The bench's *depth* is 22 inches.
2 [*count*] : an area that exists far below a surface or far inside something : a deep place or area — usually plural ▪ They disappeared into the *depths* of the forest. ▪ Scientists have begun using the machine to explore the ocean *depths*. ▪ the black *depths* of outer space — often used figuratively ▪ The actress must examine her own emotional *depths* to perform the role successfully. ▪ Around midnight, a loud noise woke us from the *depths* of sleep. ▪ I knew in ***the depths of my heart/soul/being*** [=I believed very strongly] that we would survive. ▪ The memory lies hidden in ***the depths of her mind***. [=she has not thought about the memory in a long time] ▪ in ***the depths of winter*** [=in the middle of winter; in the coldest part of winter]
3 [*count*] **a :** a very low or bad state or condition — usually plural ▪ After losing his job, he sank into the *depths* of misery/despair/depression. ▪ The film portrays a family's difficult climb from the *depths* of poverty. ▪ I can't believe he lied. He's really ***sunk to new depths***. ▪ The team is ***reaching/plumbing new depths*** this season. [=the team is playing worse than it ever has before] **b :** the worst part of something ▪ I began working at the factory during the *depth/depths* of the Depression.
4 [*noncount*] : the quality of being deep: such as **a :** the quality of being strongly felt ▪ We were surprised by the *depth* of her anger/pain/shame. ▪ He wanted to express the *depth* of his love for her. ▪ No one doubted the *depth* of his faith. [=they all knew that his faith was strong] ▪ the *depth* of her commitment to the project ▪ The dancers expressed great *depth* of feeling/emotion. **b :** the quality of being very bad or serious ▪ I was shocked when I realized the *depth* of the problem. **c :** the quality of being complete or thorough ▪ We were impressed by the *depth* [=*extent*] of her experience/knowledge. ▪ Your essay lacks *depth*. [=it does not cover its topic in a complete way] **d :** the quality of being strong in color, taste, etc. ▪ the *depth* of a color ▪ The wine has great *depth* of flavor. **e :** the quality of being low in sound ▪ the *depth* of his voice **f** *US, sports* : the quality of having many good players on a team ▪ The team lacks *depth* this year.
in depth : in a thorough or complete way ▪ The problem has yet to be examined/explored/studied *in depth*. [=*thoroughly*] ▪ These topics need to be discussed *in* (more/greater) *depth*. — see also IN-DEPTH
out of your depth *also* ***beyond your depth*** **1 :** dealing with a situation or subject that is too difficult for you ▪ When the debate turned to physics, I knew that I was *out of my depth*. [=*in over my head*] **2** *chiefly Brit* : in water that is deeper than your height ▪ He is just getting used to swimming in water that is *out of his depth*. [=*over his head*]

depth charge *noun, pl* **~ charges** [*count*] : a bomb that is made to explode under water at a particular depth in order to destroy submarines

depth perception *noun* [*noncount*] : the ability to see how far away something is or how much space is between things

dep•u•ta•tion /ˌdɛpjə'teɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count*] *formal* : a group of people who are sent to a place to represent other people ▪ Many countries will be sending *deputations* to the peace conference.

de•pute /dɪ'pju:t/ *verb* **-putes**; **-put•ed**; **-put•ing** [+ *obj*] *chiefly Brit, formal* : to give (someone) a job or responsibility ▪ Several officers were *deputed* to guard the building. ▪ I've been *deputed* to meet them at the airport.

dep•u•tize *also Brit* **dep•u•tise** /'dɛpjəˌtaɪz/ *verb* **-tiz•es**; **-tized**; **-tiz•ing**
1 [+ *obj*] *chiefly US* : to give (someone) the power to do something in place of another person : to make (someone) a deputy — often followed by *to* + *verb* ▪ The new system *deputizes* the nurses *to perform* some of the doctors' duties.
2 [*no obj*] *Brit* : to act in place of another person : to act *for* someone as a deputy ▪ I *deputize for* the newspaper's editor on the weekends.

dep•u•ty /'dɛpjəti/ *noun, pl* **-ties** [*count*]
1 : an important assistant who helps the person who the leader of a government, organization, etc. ▪ (*US*) a sheriff's *deputy* [=an assistant who helps a sheriff enforce the law] — often used before another noun ▪ a *deputy* sheriff ▪ She's now the department's *deputy* director. ▪ a *deputy* mayor
2 : a member of Parliament in some countries

de•rail /dɪ'reɪl/ *verb* **-rails**; **-railed**; **-rail•ing**

1 [*no obj*] *of a train* : to leave its tracks ▪ The train *derailed* in heavy snow.
2 [+ *obj*] : to cause (a train) to leave its tracks ▪ The train was *derailed* by heavy snow. — often used figuratively ▪ His plans for becoming a professional football player were *derailed* [=*ruined*] by several injuries in college. ▪ The incident threatened to *derail* her career.
– **de•rail•ment** /dɪˈreɪlmənt/ *noun, pl* **-ments** [*count*] train *derailments* [*noncount*] the threat of *derailment* ▪ *derailment* of the peace process

derailleur *noun, pl* **-leurs** [*count*] : a part on a bicycle that is used to change gears by moving the chain from one gear to another one — see picture at BICYCLE

de•ranged /dɪˈreɪnʤd/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : unable to think or act in a normal or logical way especially because of severe mental illness : crazy or insane ▪ The actor was being followed by a (mentally) *deranged* fan. ▪ *deranged* criminals ▪ a *deranged* mind
– **de•range•ment** /dɪˈreɪnʤmənt/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ mental *derangement*

der•by /ˈdəbi, *Brit* ˈdɑːbi/ *noun, pl* **-bies** [*count*]
1 : a type of horse race that takes place every year — used especially in proper names ▪ the Kentucky *Derby*
2 : a race or contest ▪ a fishing *derby* — see also DEMOLITION DERBY, ROLLER DERBY
3 *Brit* : a game between local sports teams ▪ a *derby* between Manchester United and Manchester City
4 *US* : a hard usually black cloth hat that has a round top and that was worn by men especially in the 1800s — called also (*US*) *derby hat*, (*chiefly Brit*) *bowler*

de•reg•u•late /diˈrɛgjəˌleɪt/ *verb* **-lates**; **-lat•ed**; **-lat•ing** [+ *obj*] : to give up control of (something, such as an industry) by removing laws : to remove regulations or restrictions from (something) ▪ The government plans to further *deregulate* the oil industry.
– **de•reg•u•la•tion** /diˌrɛgjəˈleɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*]

[1]der•e•lict /ˈderəˌlɪkt/ *adj, formal*
1 : no longer cared for or used by anyone ▪ a *derelict* house/ship/place ▪ a slum filled with *derelict* [=*run-down, dilapidated*] warehouses
2 [*more ~; most ~*] *US, formal* : failing to do what should be done : NEGLIGENT ▪ The officer was charged with being *derelict in* his duty.

[2]derelict *noun, pl* **-licts** [*count*] *formal + disapproving* : a person who has no money, job, home, etc. ▪ a drunken *derelict* [=*vagrant, bum*] ▪ It was a run-down neighborhood filled with drugs addicts and *derelicts*.

der•e•lic•tion /ˌderəˈlɪkʃən/ *noun, formal*
1 [*noncount*] **a** : the act of no longer caring for, using, or doing something : the act of abandoning something ▪ the *dereliction* of a cause by its leaders **b** : the condition of being no longer cared for ▪ The building is in a state of *dereliction*. [=is in poor condition from being abandoned]
2 [*singular*] *law* : failure to do your job or duty : failure to do what you should do ▪ The officer was formally charged with ***dereliction of duty***. ▪ a serious *dereliction of duty* ✧ *Dereliction* is usually used to refer to the crime that is committed when a military officer or police officer fails to do an important part of his or her job.

de•ride /dɪˈraɪd/ *verb* **-rides**; **-rid•ed**; **-rid•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to talk or write about (someone or something) in a very critical or insulting way : to say that (someone or something) is ridiculous or has no value ▪ politicians attempting to win votes by *deriding* [=*belittling*] their opponents — often + *as* ▪ One critic *derides* the book *as* dull and predictable. — often used as *(be) derided* ▪ For years women *were derided as* the weaker sex.

de rigueur /dəˌriˈgɚ/ *adj, formal* : necessary if you want to be fashionable, popular, socially acceptable, etc. ▪ Dark sunglasses are *de rigueur* these days. ✧ The phrase *de rigueur* comes from French.

de•ri•sion /dɪˈrɪʒən/ *noun* [*noncount*] *formal* : the feeling that people express when they criticize and laugh at someone or something in an insulting way ▪ yells of *derision* ▪ The governor's plan was greeted with *derision* [=*ridicule*] by most journalists and pundits. ▪ One of the students laughed/snorted in *derision* at my error. ▪ The team's awful record has made it an ***object of derision*** in the league. ▪ "Nerd" is a ***term of derision***.
– **de•ri•sive** /dɪˈraɪsɪv/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] ▪ *derisive* [=*scornful*] laughter ▪ a *derisive* [=*derogatory*] term – **de•ri•sive•ly** *adv* ▪ laughing *derisively* [=*scornfully*]

de•ri•so•ry /dɪˈraɪsəri/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *formal*
1 : of too little value to be considered seriously : ridiculously small ▪ He offered to buy the car for some *derisory* [=*paltry, measly*] sum/amount, but I turned him down.
2 : expressing a belief that something or someone is ridiculous or without value : expressing derision ▪ The presentation was so bad that it received only a few *derisory* [=(more commonly) *derisive*] comments.

der•i•va•tion /ˌderəˈveɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**
1 a : the origin of a word [*count*] It is a word for which several *derivations* [=*etymologies*] have been suggested. ▪ He is doing research into the *derivation* of "Yankee." [*noncount*] words of Latin *derivation* **b** [*noncount*] : the act of forming a word *from* another word ▪ "Childish" was formed by *derivation from* "child."
2 a [*noncount*] : the source or origin of something ▪ foods of Indian *derivation* [=foods originally from India] **b** [*count*] : an act or process by which one thing is formed or created *from* another ▪ Scientists are debating the possible *derivation* of birds *from* dinosaurs.

[1]de•riv•a•tive /dɪˈrɪvətɪv/ *noun, pl* **-tives** [*count*]
1 : a word formed from another word ▪ The word "childish" is a *derivative* of "child."
2 : something that comes from something else : a substance that is made from another substance ▪ Tofu is one of many soybean *derivatives*. ▪ Petroleum is a *derivative* of coal tar.

[2]derivative /dɪˈrɪvətɪv/ *adj*
1 [*more ~; most ~*] *usually disapproving* : made up of parts from something else : not new or original ▪ *derivative* poetry ▪ A number of critics found the film *derivative* and predictable. ▪ His style seems too *derivative* of Hemingway.
2 : formed from another word ▪ a *derivative* term

de•rive /dɪˈraɪv/ *verb* **-rives**; **-rived**; **-riv•ing**
1 [+ *obj*] : to take or get (something) *from* (something else) ▪ The river *derives* its name *from* a Native American tribe. ▪ She *derived* [=*received, took*] great satisfaction *from* their friendship. — often used as *(be) derived* ▪ Many English words *are derived from* French. ▪ Petroleum *is derived from* coal tar and used to make gasoline.
2 [*no obj*] : to have something as a source : to come *from* something ▪ Much of the book's appeal *derives from* the personality of its central character.
– **de•riv•able** /dɪˈraɪvəbəl/ *adj* ▪ a substance *derivable* from coal tar

der•ma•ti•tis /ˌdɚməˈtaɪtəs/ *noun* [*noncount*] *medical* : a disease in which the skin becomes red, swollen, and sore

der•ma•tol•o•gy /ˌdɚməˈtɑːləʤi/ *noun* [*noncount*] *medical* : the scientific study of the skin and its diseases ▪ One of the doctors at the clinic specializes in *dermatology*.
– **der•ma•tol•o•gist** /ˌdɚməˈtɑːləʤɪst/ *noun, pl* **-gists** [*count*] ▪ The *dermatologist* said that the baby's rash was nothing to worry about.

der•o•gate /ˈderəˌgeɪt/ *verb* **-gates**; **-gat•ed**; **-gat•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to insult (someone or something) : to say or suggest that (something or someone) is not important or worthy of respect ▪ The title of the book *derogates* the people it is about. ▪ Her parents are constantly *derogating* her achievements.
derogate from [*phrasal verb*] ***derogate from (something or someone)*** *formal* : to lessen the importance or value of (something or someone) ▪ These criticisms are not meant to *derogate from* [=*detract from*] the excellent work they have done.
– **de•rog•a•tion** /ˌderəˈgeɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count, noncount*]

de•rog•a•to•ry /dɪˈrɑːgəˌtori, *Brit* dɪˈrɒgətri/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : expressing a low opinion of someone or something : showing a lack of respect for someone or something ▪ He was accused of making *derogatory* [=*insulting, disrespectful*] remarks about her. ▪ a *derogatory* [=*disparaging*] term/word

der•rick /ˈderɪk/ *noun, pl* **-ricks** [*count*]
1 : a tall machine with a long part like an arm that is used to move or lift heavy things especially on ships
2 : a tall tower that is built over an oil well and used to support and guide the tool that is used to dig the hole and get oil out of the ground

der•ri•ere *or* **der•ri•ère** /ˌderiˈeɚ/ *noun, pl* **-eres** *or* **-ères** [*count*] *humorous* : the part of the body you sit on : BUTTOCKS ▪ I slipped on the ice and fell on my *derriere*.

der•ring–do /ˌderɪŋˈduː/ *noun* [*noncount*] *old-fashioned + humorous* : brave acts : behavior that requires courage ▪ She is known for her spectacular feats of *derring-do*. [=*bravery*] ✧

Derring-do suggests the brave acts of characters in movies and stories about adventure.

der•vish /'dəvɪʃ/ *noun, pl* **-vish•es** [*count*] : a member of a Muslim religious group that is known for its customs including a fast spinning dance that is done as part of worship ✧ In U.S. English, *dervish* is most common in figurative uses where it describes someone or something that is spinning or moving very fast. ▪ The actor whirled like a *dervish* on stage.

de•sa•li•nate /di'sælə,neɪt/ *verb* **-nates**; **-nat•ed**; **-nat•ing** [+ *obj*] *technical* : to remove salt from (something, such as water) ▪ The company is building a plant that will *desalinate* seawater.

– **de•sa•li•na•tion** /di,sælə'neɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*]

de•scale /di'skeɪl/ *verb* **-scales**; **-scaled**; **-scal•ing** [+ *obj*] *Brit, technical* : to remove the hard white substance that forms on the inside of something (such as pipes or a boiler) that heats water

des•cant /'dɛs,kænt/ *noun, pl* **-cants** [*count*] *music* : a high melody that is sung or played along with the main melody of a song

de•scend /dɪ'sɛnd/ *verb* **-scends**; **-scend•ed**; **-scend•ing** *formal*

1 : to go down : to go or move from a higher to a lower place or level [*no obj*] Wait for the elevator to *descend*. ▪ The workers *descended* into the hole. ▪ The submarine was *descending*. ▪ They *descended* from [=got down from] the platform. ▪ A herd of goats *descended* into the valley. ▪ The airplane will *descend* to a lower altitude soon. [+ *obj*] *Descending* the mountain was even more dangerous than climbing/ascending it. ▪ The children *descended* the staircase silently. ▪ *descend* a ladder — opposite ASCEND

2 [*no obj*] : to slope or lead downward ▪ The path *descends* to the river. ▪ The stairs *descended* into the tunnel. — opposite ASCEND

3 [*no obj*] : to go or change to a worse state or condition — + *into* ▪ After his wife died, he *descended* [=*sank*] *into* a deep depression. ▪ The classroom *descended into* chaos after the teacher left.

4 [*no obj*] : to appear or happen like something that comes down from the sky ▪ As night *descended*, the campers built a fire. — usually + *on* or *upon* ▪ The invaders *descended on* the village without warning. [=the invaders attacked without warning] ▪ In autumn/fall, thousands of students *descend on/upon* [=*visit*] our town. ▪ Silence *descended upon* the crowd. [=the crowd became silent]

descend from [*phrasal verb*] ***descend from (something or someone)*** : to have (something or someone in the past) as an origin or source ▪ Recent evidence supports the theory that birds *descended from* dinosaurs. ▪ The plants *descend from* a common ancestor. ▪ The tradition *descends from* [=*comes from*] an ancient custom. ▪ They claim to ***be descended from*** a noble British family.

descend to [*phrasal verb*] **1** ***descend to (someone)*** *formal* : to become owned by (someone) when the former owner has died ▪ The estate *descended to* her from her grandparents. [=she inherited the estate from her grandparents] **2** ***descend to (something)*** : to lower yourself by doing (something) ▪ She was desperate for money, but she would not *descend to* [=(more commonly) *stoop to*] asking her friends for help. — see also *descend to someone's level* at ¹LEVEL

in descending order ✧ If people or things are ***in descending order***, they are are arranged in a series that begins with the greatest or largest and ends with the least or smallest. ▪ The states are listed *in descending order* of population size. ▪ The sale items are arranged *in descending order* according to price.

de•scen•dant /dɪ'sɛndənt/ *noun, pl* **-dants** [*count*]

1 : someone who is related to a person or group of people who lived in the past ▪ One of the famous inventor's *descendants* is also an inventor. ▪ Many people in this area are *descendants* of German immigrants.

2 : a plant or animal that is related to a particular plant or animal that lived long ago ▪ Recent evidence supports the theory that birds are the modern *descendants* of dinosaurs.

3 : something that developed from another thing that was made or existed earlier ▪ The Italian language is one of Latin's *descendants*.

de•scent /dɪ'sɛnt/ *noun, pl* **-scents** *formal*

1 [*count*] : the act or process of descending: such as **a** : the act or process of going from a higher to a lower place or level — usually singular ▪ The climbers were faced with a dangerous *descent* in bad weather. ▪ the submarine's *descent* ▪ After only an hour of flight, the pilot announced our *descent*. — opposite ASCENT **b** : the act or process or changing to a worse state or condition ▪ The book describes his *descent* into a deep depression after the death of his wife. ▪ her slow *descent* to a life of addiction

2 [*count*] : a way of going down something : a downward slope, path, etc. ▪ The only path that goes down to the river is a rather steep *descent*, so be careful.

3 [*noncount*] : the people in your family who lived before you were born : your ancestors ▪ Many people in this area are of German *descent*. [=*ancestry*] ▪ They claim to be ***of royal descent***. [=they say that their ancestors were kings, queens, etc.]

de•scribe /dɪ'skraɪb/ *verb* **-scribes**; **-scribed**; **-scrib•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to tell someone the appearance, sound, smell, events, etc., of (something or someone) : to say what something or someone is like ▪ The witness wasn't able to *describe* the robber. ▪ He *described* the house in perfect detail. ▪ The article *describes* how the experiment was done. ▪ She *described* watching dolphins play beside the ship. ▪ Please *describe* what happened next. ▪ Can you *describe* the lost dog to me? — often + *as* ▪ He was *described* by his friends *as* generous and loyal. ▪ Reporters *described* the scene *as* a disaster area.

2 *formal* : to make a motion or draw a line that shows the shape of (something) ▪ She used a stick to *describe* a circle on the ground.

– **de•scrib•able** /dɪ'skraɪbəbəl/ *adj* ▪ The process is not easily *describable*.

de•scrip•tion /dɪ'skrɪpʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**

1 : a statement that tells you how something or someone looks, sounds, etc. : words that describe something or someone [*count*] Reporters called the scene "a disaster area," and I think that was an accurate *description*. ▪ I applied for the position after reading the job *description*. ▪ We are looking for someone with experience and a sense of humor. Do you know anyone who fits/matches that *description*? [=anyone who has those qualities] — often + *of* ▪ a brief/general *description of* the process ▪ The witness was unable to give/provide a *description of* the robber. [=was unable to describe the robber] ▪ Someone fitting/answering/matching the witness' *description of* the burglar has been arrested. [*noncount*] a writer with a gift of/for *description* ▪ The landscape is beautiful ***beyond description***. [=is extremely beautiful]

2 [*count*] : type or kind — used after *of* ▪ We saw people *of* every *description*. [=*sort*] ▪ The museum features toys *of* all *descriptions*. [=*kinds*] ▪ The store sells hats, gloves, and things *of* that *description*. [=*nature, ilk*]

de•scrip•tive /dɪ'skrɪptɪv/ *adj*

1 [*more ~; most ~*] : giving information about how something or someone looks, sounds, etc. : using words to describe what something or someone is like ▪ She gave a *descriptive* account of the journey. ▪ a talent for *descriptive* writing ▪ a poem full of *descriptive* detail ▪ The black cat was given the *descriptive* name "Midnight." — often + *of* ▪ They chose a name *descriptive of* the company's philosophy.

2 *technical* : providing facts about how a language is actually used rather than rules that tell people how it should be used ▪ The book is a *descriptive* grammar. ▪ *descriptive* dictionaries — opposite PRESCRIPTIVE

– **de•scrip•tive•ly** *adv* [*more ~; most ~*]

des•e•crate /'dɛsɪ,kreɪt/ *verb* **-crates**; **-crat•ed**; **-crat•ing** [+ *obj*] : to damage (a holy place or object) : to treat (a holy place or object) with disrespect ▪ The vandals were accused of *desecrating* graves. ▪ a *desecrated* church

– **des•e•cra•tion** /,dɛsɪ'kreɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ The law forbids *desecration* of the flag.

de•seg•re•gate /di'sɛgrə,geɪt/ *verb* **-gates**; **-gat•ed**; **-gat•ing** : to end a policy that keeps people of different races apart : to end a policy of segregation [+ *obj*] efforts to *desegregate* the town's buses — usually used as *(be) desegregated* ▪ The city's schools *were* finally *desegregated* in the 1960s. [*no obj*] Eventually the city's schools *desegregated*.

– **de•seg•re•ga•tion** /di,sɛgrɪ'geɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*]

de•se•lect /,di:sə'lɛkt/ *verb* **-lects**; **-lect•ed**; **-lect•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 *computers* : to remove (something) from a list of choices especially by clicking with a computer mouse ▪ If you don't want the computer program to automatically correct your spelling, you will have to *deselect* that option.

2 *Brit, politics* : to choose not to have (a current member of

Parliament) as a candidate again at the next election
– **de·se·lec·tion** *noun* [*noncount*]

de·sen·si·tize *also Brit* **de·sen·si·tise** /diˈsɛnsəˌtaɪz/ *verb* **-tiz·es**; **-tized**; **-tiz·ing** [+ *obj*] : to cause (someone or something) to react less to or be less affected by something : to cause (someone or something) to be less sensitive ▪ The shot will help to *desensitize* the nerve. — usually + *to*; often used as *(be/become) desensitized* ▪ People can *become desensitized to* violence by endless images of war. ▪ Her body has *become desensitized to* the medication.
– **de·sen·si·ti·za·tion** *also Brit* **de·sen·si·ti·sa·tion** /diˌsɛnsətəˈzeɪʃən, *Brit* diˌsɛnsəˌtaɪˈzeɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*]

[1]des·ert /ˈdɛzət/ *noun, pl* **-erts**
1 : an area of very dry land that is usually covered with sand and is very hot [*count*] Many settlers died while trying to cross the *desert*. ▪ the Arabian and African *deserts* [*noncount*] The region is mostly *desert*. — often used before another noun ▪ the shifting *desert* sands ▪ a study of *desert* plants ▪ stranded on a ***desert island*** [=an island where no people live] — see color picture on page C7
2 [*count*] : a place or area that does not have something interesting or important ▪ For many years, the city was a cultural *desert*, but now there are several museums and also a concert hall. — see also DESERTS

Do not confuse *desert* with *dessert*.

[2]de·sert /dɪˈzɚt/ *verb* **-serts**; **-sert·ed**; **-sert·ing**
1 [+ *obj*] : to go away from (a place) : to leave (a place) ▪ The inhabitants had *deserted* the town. ▪ If the nest is disturbed, the bird may *desert* [=*abandon*] it.
2 [+ *obj*] : to leave and stop helping or supporting (someone or something) ▪ She had been married for just over a year when her husband *deserted* her. ▪ He was *deserted* by his friends and family. ▪ He vowed that he would never *desert* [=*abandon*] a friend in trouble. ▪ He urged people not to *desert* the cause. [=not to stop supporting the cause]
3 [+ *obj*] *of a useful quality or ability* : to no longer be with (someone) in a time of need ▪ The soldiers prayed that their courage would not *desert* them. [=that they would not lose their courage] ▪ She was a respected academic until late in life when her memory *deserted* her. [=she lost her ability to remember things]
4 [*no obj*] *of a soldier* : to leave the military without permission and without intending to return ▪ Many soldiers *deserted* during the first weeks of the war.
– **deserted** *adj* ▪ The town was *deserted*. [=there were no people in the town] ▪ We came upon a *deserted* [=*abandoned*] old hotel. ▪ a *deserted* street/road ▪ *deserted* wives/husbands/children – **de·ser·tion** /dɪˈzɚʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*noncount*] the mysterious *desertion* of the town by its inhabitants ▪ He was guilty of *desertion* during wartime. [*count*] The military has reported 350 *desertions*.

de·sert·er /dɪˈzɚtɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a soldier who leaves without permission : a military person who deserts

de·sert·i·fi·ca·tion /dɪˌzɚtəfəˈkeɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] *technical* : the process by which an area becomes a desert ▪ The organization was awarded for its efforts to prevent further *desertification* in Africa.

de·serts /dɪˈzɚts/ *noun* [*plural*] : punishment that someone deserves ▪ We all want to see this criminal ***get/receive his just deserts***.

de·serve /dɪˈzɚv/ *verb* **-serves**; **-served**; **-serv·ing** [+ *obj*] — used to say that someone or something should or should not have or be given something ▪ She *deserves* another chance. ▪ He doesn't *deserve* the award. ▪ Every defendant *deserves* a fair trial. ▪ The newspaper *deserves* a lot of credit for calling attention to the problem. ▪ I think the idea *deserves* [=*merits*] consideration. ▪ The story *deserves* telling. [=the story should be told; the story is important enough to tell] ▪ What did I do to *deserve* this kind of harsh treatment? [=you should not treat me this way] ▪ She believes that people eventually get what they *deserve*. ▪ He ***deserves a medal*** for coming up with a solution so quickly. [=he did something very good and impressive by coming up with a solution so quickly] — often followed by *to* + *verb* ▪ Anyone who will not use a map *deserves to get* lost. ▪ They *deserve to be* punished. ▪ He *deserves to win*.
– **deserved** /dɪˈzɚvd/ *adj* ▪ a well-*deserved* vacation/break ▪ a *deserved* win/victory/reputation ▪ The award/criticism was not *deserved*. – **de·serv·ed·ly** /dɪˈzɚvədli/ *adv* ▪ She was *deservedly* praised for her generosity. ▪ He has been accused of being selfish, and ***deservedly so***. [=he deserves to be called selfish; it is reasonable to call him selfish because of his behavior]

deserving *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]
1 *always used before a noun* : having good qualities that deserve praise, support, etc. ▪ He's a very *deserving* young man. ▪ The church provides aid to *deserving* families.
2 *not used before a noun* — used to say that someone or something should have or be given something; + *of* ▪ She was *deserving of* praise. [=she deserved praise] ▪ criminals *deserving of* harsh punishment ▪ an idea that is *deserving of* attention

des·ic·cat·ed /ˈdɛsɪˌkeɪtəd/ *adj*
1 *technical* : having had the water removed ▪ *desiccated* [=(more commonly) *dried, dehydrated*] coconut
2 *formal* : very dry ▪ *desiccated* land

des·ic·ca·tion /ˌdɛsɪˈkeɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] *technical* : the process by which something becomes completely dry ▪ *desiccation* of soil

de·sid·er·a·tum /dɪˌsɪdəˈrɑːtəm/ *noun, pl* **-ta** /-tə/ [*count*] *formal* : something that is needed or wanted ▪ a list of political *desiderata*

[1]de·sign /dɪˈzaɪn/ *verb* **-signs**; **-signed**; **-sign·ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to plan and make decisions about (something that is being built or created) : to create the plans, drawings, etc., that show how (something) will be made ▪ A team of engineers *designed* the new engine. ▪ a badly *designed* building ▪ She *designs* clothes. ▪ Who *designed* the book's cover?
2 : to plan and make (something) for a specific use or purpose ▪ He *designed* the chair to adjust automatically. — usually used as *(be) designed* ▪ The course *is designed* to teach beginners. [=the purpose of the course is to teach beginners] ▪ The book *is designed* as a college textbook. ▪ The shoes *are designed* to keep your feet warm and dry. ▪ The book *is* specially *designed* for learners. ▪ The new models have *been designed* for easier use.
3 : to think of (something, such as a plan) : to plan (something) in your mind ▪ They thought they could *design* the perfect crime. ▪ *design* a strategy for battle

[2]design *noun, pl* **-signs**
1 : the way something has been made : the way the parts of something (such as a building, machine, book, etc.) are formed and arranged for a particular use, effect, etc. [*noncount*] There are problems with the *design* of the airplane's landing gear. ▪ I like the *design* of the textbook. ▪ I love the sculpture's *design*. [*count*] The machine had a flawed *design*.
2 [*noncount*] : the process of planning how something will look, happen, be made, etc. : the process of designing something ▪ She is studying furniture/Web *design*. [=how to design furniture/Web sites] ▪ the *design* and development of new products ▪ The new model is still in the *design* stage. [=is still being designed] ▪ Correcting mistakes is part of the *design* process. ▪ a number of *design* concepts/ideas — see also INTERIOR DESIGN
3 [*count*] : a drawing of something that is being planned or created — often + *for* ▪ We reviewed the preliminary *design for* the new stadium. ▪ Can I see the *designs* [=*plans*] *for* both bridges?
4 [*count*] : a decorative pattern that covers something : a repeating picture, shape, etc., on something ▪ The wallpaper in the bedroom has a floral *design*. ▪ a skirt with a paisley *design* ▪ fabric sold in a variety of colors and *designs*
5 : something that you plan to do : INTENTION [*count*] My *design* [=(more commonly) *purpose*] in writing to you is to ask for your support. [*noncount*] The motor is loud ***by design***. [=because it was intended to be loud] ▪ The meeting happened by accident, not *by design*. [=*on purpose*]
have designs on **1** : to have a secret desire and plan to get (something) ▪ She *had designs on* my job. **2** *formal* + *humorous* : to want to date or have a sexual relationship with (someone) ▪ You can deny it all you want, but I think it's pretty obvious that you *have designs on* her.

[1]des·ig·nate /ˈdɛzɪgˌneɪt/ *verb* **-nates**; **-nat·ed**; **-nat·ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to officially choose (someone or something) to do or be something : to officially give (someone or something) a particular role or purpose ▪ It might be difficult to *designate* [=*select*] an appropriate place for the event. ▪ We need to *designate* [=*appoint*] a new leader. — often used as *(be) designated* ▪ money *designated* [=*set aside*] for the scholarship fund ▪ He *was designated* team captain. = He ***was designated as*** team captain. [=he was made team captain] ▪ The park has *been designated as* a wildlife refuge. — often followed by *to* +

verb ▪ He *was designated to be* team captain.

2 a : to call (something or someone) by a particular name or title ▪ We *designated* [=*named*] the first one "alpha." — often used as *(be) designated* ▪ The four parts *were designated A, B, C,* and *D* in the diagram. **b :** to be used as a name for (something or someone) ▪ The word eventually came to *designate* [=*refer to*] any kind of mistake.

3 : to mark, show, or represent (something) ▪ The wooden stakes *designate* the edge of the building site. — usually used as *(be) designated* ▪ Free items *are designated* by blue stickers. ▪ The state capital *is designated* [=*indicated*] by a star.

– **designated** *adj* ▪ We all agreed to meet at a *designated* time. [=a specific time that we agreed on] ▪ 18 years old is the *designated* age to vote. — see also DESIGNATED DRIVER, DESIGNATED HITTER – **des·ig·na·tor** /ˈdɛzɪgˌneɪtɚ/ *noun, pl* **-tors** [*count*]

[2]designate *adj, not used before a noun, formal* : chosen for a particular job but not officially doing that job yet ▪ the governor *designate* [=the governor elect]

designated driver *noun, pl* ~ **-ers** [*count*] : a person who agrees not to drink alcohol on a particular occasion so that he or she will be able to safely drive around other people who will be drinking alcohol

designated hitter *noun, pl* ~ **-ters** [*count*] *baseball* : a player who is chosen at the beginning of a game to bat in the place of the pitcher and who does not play a position in the field — called also *DH*

des·ig·na·tion /ˌdɛzɪgˈneɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** *formal*

1 [*noncount*] : the act of officially choosing someone or something to do or be something — + *as* ▪ Everyone supported the park's *designation as* a wildlife refuge. ▪ The committee favors *designation* of the house *as* an historic building.

2 [*count*] : a name or title that identifies someone or something ▪ Though many people call her a liberal, it is not a *designation* she uses herself.

des·ig·nee /ˌdɛzɪgˈniː/ *noun, pl* **-nees** [*count*] *chiefly US, formal* : a person who has been officially chosen to do or be something : a person who has been designated ▪ the President's *designees* for Cabinet positions

[1]de·sign·er /dɪˈzaɪnɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a person who plans how something new will look and be made : a person who creates and often produces a new product, style, etc. ▪ She is one of the leading *designers* in the fashion world. ▪ He is a *designer* and engineer for a car company. ▪ She was the *designer* of the book's jacket. ▪ a boat/clothing/computer/costume *designer* ▪ a Web (site) *designer* — see also INTERIOR DESIGNER

[2]designer *adj, always used before a noun*

1 : created by a famous designer ▪ *designer* jeans/fashions ▪ *designer* wallpaper

2 : very fashionable and popular ▪ *designer* coffee drinks ▪ *designer* perfumes

3 *technical* : scientifically changed from the usual or natural form ▪ *designer* foods ▪ *designer* estrogen

designer drug *noun, pl* ~ **drugs** [*count*]

1 : a drug that is created to be only slightly different from an illegal drug so that it will not be considered illegal

2 : an artificially made drug that is used for pleasure ▪ Ecstasy is a *designer drug*.

de·sign·ing /dɪˈzaɪnɪŋ/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *old-fashioned* : having plans to get something in a way that is not honest or fair ▪ a plot by a group of wicked and *designing* [=*crafty, scheming*] men

de·sir·able /dɪˈzaɪrəbəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : having good or pleasing qualities : worth having or getting ▪ The house is in a highly *desirable* location/neighborhood. ▪ *desirable* jobs ▪ The new stove has many *desirable* features/characteristics. ▪ the qualities that make a *desirable* business partner ▪ The experiment did not achieve a *desirable* result. ▪ It is *desirable* [=(more commonly) *advisable, smart*] to talk with a lawyer before signing any contract. — opposite UNDESIRABLE

2 : sexually attractive ▪ a beautiful and *desirable* woman

– **de·sir·abil·i·ty** /dɪˌzaɪrəˈbɪlətiː/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ Housing prices vary according to the *desirability* of the location.

– **de·sir·ably** /dɪˈzaɪrəbliː/ *adv* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ a *desirably* located apartment

[1]de·sire /dɪˈzajɚ/ *verb, not used in progressive tenses* **-sires**; **-sired**; **-sir·ing** [+ *obj*]

1 *somewhat formal* : to want or wish for (something) : to feel desire for (something) ▪ Many people *desire* wealth. ▪ He *desired* her approval more than anything. ▪ The apartment has modern amenities, a great location—everything you could *desire*. ▪ Those *desiring* [=*looking for*] a more relaxed atmosphere will prefer the pub in the restaurant's lower level. — sometimes followed by *to* + *verb* ▪ I have always *desired* [=*wanted*] *to go* to France.

2 : to want to have sex with (someone) ▪ She knew that men still *desired* her.

3 *formal* : to express a wish for (something) ▪ The committee *desires* [=*requests*] an immediate answer.

leave much to be desired *or* ***leave a lot to be desired*** *or* ***leave a great deal to be desired*** — used to say that something is not very good at all or is not close to being good enough ▪ Your work *leaves much to be desired.* ▪ Although her education *left much to be desired*, she was an extremely intelligent person. ▪ The working conditions here *leave a lot to be desired.*

– **desired** *adj* ▪ an artist mixing paints to get a *desired* color ▪ a *desired* effect/result

[2]desire *noun, pl* **-sires**

1 a [*noncount*] : the feeling of wanting something ▪ *Desire* is a common theme is music and literature. ▪ an ***object of desire*** [=something that people want to have] **b** [*count*] : a strong wish ▪ It is our *desire* that all of you be treated fairly. [=we want all of you to be treated fairly] ▪ The magazine tries to attend to the needs and *desires* of its readers. **:** a wish *for* something or *to do* something ▪ Both sides feel a real *desire for* peace. ▪ His decisions are guided by his *desire for* land/money/power/change. ▪ They expressed a *desire to go* with us. ▪ They have a *desire to have* children. ▪ a strong/burning/aching *desire to travel* around the world

2 : a feeling of wanting to have sex with someone [*count*] He had/felt a strong (sexual) *desire* for her. [*noncount*] He was overcome with *desire* for her.

3 [*count*] : someone or something that you want or wish for — usually singular ▪ He worried that he might never achieve his *desire*. [=might never do the thing that he wanted to do] ▪ A good education had always been her ***heart's desire***. [=something she wanted very much] ▪ "You are my *heart's desire*," he told her.

de·sir·ous /dɪˈzaɪrəs/ *adj, not used before a noun* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *somewhat formal* : wanting or wishing for something very much : feeling desire for something — usually + *of* ▪ parents *desirous of* a better way to educate their children [=parents who want a better way to educate their children] ▪ consumers *desirous of* saving money [=consumers who want to save money]

de·sist /dɪˈsɪst/ *verb* **-sists**; **-sist·ed**; **-sist·ing** [*no obj*] *formal* : to stop doing something ▪ Despite orders from the police, the protesters would not *desist*. — often + *from* ▪ They were ordered to *desist from* using the symbol as a logo. ▪ The court ordered the company to ***cease and desist*** *from* selling the photographs. [=to immediately stop selling the photographs] — see also CEASE AND DESIST ORDER

desk /ˈdɛsk/ *noun, pl* **desks** [*count*]

1 : a piece of furniture that is like a table and often has drawers ✧ People often sit at desks when they are writing or using a computer. ▪ a cluttered *desk* ▪ a classroom with *desks* arranged in rows ✧ Often *desk* refers specifically to the desk a person uses to do his or her job. ▪ I'm sorry I missed your call. I've been away from my *desk*. — often used before another noun ▪ a *desk* lamp/calendar/chair ▪ She left her ***desk job*** [=the job that she did while sitting at a desk] to become a farmer. — see picture at OFFICE

2 : a place where people can get information or be served at an office, a hotel, etc. ▪ an information *desk* at an airport ▪ We will ask for directions to the restaurant at the ***front desk***. ▪ We went to the ***reception desk*** to check into our room.

3 : the part of a company or organization that deals with a particular subject ▪ the television network's financial/foreign *desk* [=*department*] ▪ the newspaper's sports *desk* ▪ the ***news desk*** [=the office where news is gathered to be reported in a newspaper, on television, etc.] — see also CITY DESK

desk·bound /ˈdɛksˌbaʊnd/ *adj* : having a job that requires you to be at a desk ▪ *deskbound* office workers

[1]desk·top /ˈdɛskˌtɑːp/ *noun, pl* **-tops** [*count*]

1 : the top surface of a desk ▪ The *desktop* was covered with books and stacks of papers.

2 a : a computer that is designed to be used on a desk or table : a desktop computer — compare LAPTOP, NOTEBOOK **b :** an area or window on a computer screen in which small pictures (called icons) are arranged like objects on top of a desk ▪ He created a new folder on his *desktop*.

[2]desktop *adj, always used before a noun*
1 : of a size that is suitable to be used on a desk or table ▪ a *desktop* computer
2 : done using a personal computer ▪ She is working on a *desktop* video project. ▪ Do you have any experience in ***desktop publishing***? [=the use of a computer to design and produce magazines, books, etc.]

[1]des•o•late /'dɛsələt/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*]
1 : lacking the people, plants, animals, etc., that make people feel welcome in a place ▪ a landscape as *desolate* [=*barren, lifeless*] as the moon ▪ We drove for hours along a *desolate* [=*deserted*] stretch of road.
2 : very sad and lonely especially because someone you love has died or left ▪ *desolate* [=*grief-stricken*] parents grieving over the death of their son ▪ *desolate* thoughts and memories

[2]des•o•late /'dɛsə,leɪt/ *verb* **-lates**; **-lat•ed**; **-lat•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal + literary*
1 : to make (someone) feel very sad and lonely for a long time — usually used as *(be) desolated* ▪ They *were desolated* [=(more commonly) *devastated*] by the death of their son.
2 : to damage (a place) in such a way that it is no longer suitable for people to live in ▪ The constant bombings had *desolated* [=(more commonly) *destroyed, devastated*] the town.
– desolated *adj* ▪ a *desolated* village

des•o•la•tion /,dɛsə'leɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*]
1 : extreme sadness caused by loss or loneliness ▪ She sank into a state of *desolation* and despair.
2 : the condition of a place or thing that has been damaged in such a way that it is no longer suitable for people to live in **:** the state or condition of being desolate ▪ photos that show the *desolation* of war ▪ It was a scene of utter *desolation*. [=*ruin, devastation*]

[1]de•spair /dɪ'speɚ/ *noun* [*noncount*]
1 : the feeling of no longer having any hope ▪ His *despair* nearly drove him mad. ▪ She let out a cry of *despair*. [=*desperation*] ▪ I was overcome by *despair* at being unable to find them. ▪ She finally gave up ***in despair***. ▪ The people were ***driven to despair*** by the horrors of war. ▪ This latest setback has brought/carried/driven her ***to the depths of despair***.
2 : someone or something that causes extreme sadness or worry — + *of* ▪ He ***was the despair of*** his parents.

[2]despair *verb* **-spairs**; **-spaired**; **-spair•ing** [*no obj*] **:** to no longer have any hope or belief that a situation will improve or change ▪ Things look bad now, but don't *despair*. — often + *of* ▪ We had begun to *despair of* ever finding a house we could afford.

despairing *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] **:** feeling very sad and without hope **:** showing or feeling despair ▪ He plays the role of a lonely and *despairing* [=*despondent*] widower. ▪ a *despairing* cry/look
– de•spair•ing•ly *adv* ▪ They cried out *despairingly*.

despatch *Brit spelling of* DISPATCH

des•per•a•do /,dɛspə'rɑ:doʊ/ *noun, pl* **-dos** *or* **-does** [*count*] *old-fashioned* **:** a violent criminal who is not afraid of getting hurt or caught ▪ the notorious *desperados* of the Wild West

des•per•ate /'dɛsprət/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*]
1 : very sad and upset because of having little or no hope **:** feeling or showing despair ▪ The collapse of her business had made her *desperate*. ▪ As the supply of food ran out, people became *desperate*. ▪ We could hear their *desperate* cries for help. ▪ a *desperate* phone call
2 : very bad or difficult to deal with ▪ The building is in *desperate* [=*terrible, awful*] shape and may have to be demolished. ▪ *desperate* [=*hopeless*] situations ▪ The outlook was *desperate*.
3 : done with all of your strength or energy and with little hope of succeeding ▪ a *desperate* struggle to defeat the enemy ▪ He made a *desperate* bid/attempt to save his job. ▪ They made one last *desperate* attempt to fight their way out.
4 : having a strong need or desire *for* something or *to do* something ▪ He is *desperate for* money/attention/work. ▪ After traveling all night, they were *desperate for* sleep. ▪ She was *desperate to prove* that she was right.
5 : very severe or strong ▪ The animals were in *desperate* need of food and water when they were found. ▪ a *desperate* shortage of medical supplies ▪ The situation called for *desperate* measures.
– des•per•ate•ly /'dɛsprətli/ *adv* ▪ We are trying *desperately* to find a solution. ▪ They *desperately* struggled to defeat the enemy. ▪ They were *desperately* [=*extremely, terribly*] unhappy/poor. ▪ *desperately* ill patients ▪ We were *desperately* in need of food and water.

des•per•a•tion /,dɛspə'reɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] **:** a strong feeling of sadness, fear, and loss of hope ▪ She felt overcome by *desperation*. ▪ a life of *desperation* ▪ the *desperation* of severe poverty ▪ The robbery was an act of *desperation*. [=a desperate act] ▪ They hired me ***out of desperation***, because they couldn't get anyone else. ▪ Finally, ***in desperation***, he tried to flee the country.

de•spi•ca•ble /dɪ'spɪkəbəl/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *somewhat formal* **:** very bad or unpleasant **:** deserving to be despised ▪ She is a *despicable* traitor. ▪ It was a *despicable* [=*contemptible*] act of racism.
– de•spi•ca•bly /dɪ'spɪkəbli/ *adv* ▪ He behaved *despicably*.

de•spise /dɪ'spaɪz/ *verb* **-spis•es**; **-spised**; **-spis•ing** [+ *obj*] **:** to dislike (something or someone) very much ▪ He *despises* [=*hates, loathes*] pop music. ▪ Although *despised* [=*scorned, disdained*] by critics, the movie attracted a wide audience. ▪ She was *despised* as a hypocrite.

de•spite /dɪ'spaɪt/ *prep* **:** without being prevented by (something) — used to say that something happens or is true even though there is something that might prevent it from happening or being true ▪ *Despite* [=*in spite of*] our objections, he insisted on driving. ▪ She ran the race *despite* an injury. ▪ *Despite* our best efforts to save him, the patient died during the night. ▪ They are not getting married, *despite* rumors to the contrary. [=even though there have been rumors saying they are getting married] ▪ *Despite* its small size, the device is able to store thousands of hours of music. ▪ The law has yet to be passed, ***despite the fact that*** most people are in favor of it.
despite yourself **:** even though you do not want to ▪ She stared at the couple *despite herself*. ▪ *Despite myself*, I began to enjoy the movie. ▪ They grew to love each other, almost *despite themselves*.

de•spoil /dɪ'spojəl/ *verb* **-spoils**; **-spoiled**; **-spoil•ing** [+ *obj*] *literary*
1 : to severely damage or ruin (a place) ▪ The landscape has been *despoiled* by industrial development.
2 : to forcefully take what is valuable from (a place) ▪ The invaders *despoiled* [=*plundered*] the village.
– de•spoil•er *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] ▪ He sees human beings as *despoilers* of nature.

de•spond•ent /dɪ'spɑ:ndənt/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *formal* **:** very sad and without hope ▪ I had never seen them looking so *despondent*. ▪ a group of *despondent* fans — often + *over* or *about* ▪ She is *despondent over* losing her job. ▪ He grew increasingly *despondent about* her illness.
– de•spond•en•cy /dɪ'spɑ:ndənsi/ *also* **de•spon•dence** /dɪ'spɑ:ndəns/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ He went through a period of deep *despondency* after his divorce.

des•pot /'dɛspət/ *noun, pl* **-pots** [*count*]
1 : a ruler who has total power and who often uses that power in cruel and unfair ways ▪ medieval *despots* [=*tyrants*]
2 *formal* **:** a person who has a lot of power over other people ▪ He was a successful basketball coach, but many people regarded him as a petty *despot*. ▪ The company is run by a benevolent *despot*.
– des•pot•ic /dɛ'spɑ:tɪk/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] ▪ a *despotic* government

des•po•tism /'dɛspə,tɪzəm/ *noun* [*noncount*] **:** rule by a despot ▪ The people have had to endure many years of *despotism*. [=(more commonly) *tyranny*]

des•sert /dɪ'zɚt/ *noun, pl* **-serts** **:** sweet food eaten after the main part of a meal [*count*] She doesn't care for rich *desserts*. ▪ a chocolate *dessert* [*noncount*] Coffee and tea will be served with *dessert*. ▪ We had ice cream and apple pie ***for dessert***. — sometimes used before another noun ▪ They asked to look at the *dessert* menu. ▪ *dessert* plates

Do not confuse *dessert* with *desert*.

des•sert•spoon /dɪ'zɚt,spu:n/ *noun, pl* **-spoons** [*count*] *Brit*
1 : a spoon of medium size that is used to eat desserts and other foods
2 : the amount that a dessertspoon will hold ▪ a *dessertspoon* of sugar

des•sert•spoon•ful /dɪ'zɚt,spu:n,fʊl/ *noun, pl* **-fuls** [*count*] *Brit* **:** DESSERTSPOON 2

dessert wine *noun, pl* **~ wines** [*count, noncount*] **:** a sweet wine that people drink with dessert or after dessert

de•sta•bi•lize *also Brit* **de•sta•bi•lise** /di'steɪbə,laɪz/ *verb* **-liz•es**; **-lized**; **-liz•ing** [+ *obj*] **:** to cause (something, such

as a government) to be unable to continue existing or working in the usual or desired way : to make (something) unstable ▪ The group hoped the assassination of the new President would *destabilize* the government. ▪ Economists warn that the crisis could *destabilize* the nation's currency.

– **de•sta•bi•li•za•tion** *also Brit* **de•sta•bi•li•sa•tion** /di,steɪbələ'zeɪʃən, *Brit* di,steɪbə,laɪ'zeɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] – **destabilizing** *also Brit* **destabilising** *adj* ▪ a *destabilizing* influence/force/factor

des•ti•na•tion /,dɛstə'neɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count*] : a place to which a person is going or something is being sent ▪ After stopping for lunch, we continued on toward/to our *destination*. ▪ The package reached its *destination* two days later. ▪ He enjoys traveling to remote and exotic *destinations*. ▪ a popular tourist *destination* ▪ We traveled through three states before reaching our final *destination*. ▪ a *destination* restaurant/resort [=a restaurant/resort that people are willing to travel a long distance to go to]

des•tined /'dɛstənd/ *adj, not used before a noun*

1 a : certain *to do* or *to be* something ▪ Without the support of the unions, the plan seems *destined to fail*. ▪ He is *destined to be* famous. ▪ She felt that she was *destined* [=*fated, meant*] *to become* a writer. **b** : certain to achieve or experience something : certain to have a particular job, status, etc. — + *for* ▪ a nation *destined for* greatness ▪ They believed that their son was *destined for* the priesthood. ▪ a technology that is *destined for* a short life

2 : going or traveling to a particular place — + *for* ▪ The ship was *destined* [=*headed, heading, bound*] *for* New York. ▪ The shipment is *destined for* Bombay.

des•ti•ny /'dɛstəni/ *noun, pl* **-nies**

1 [*count*] : what happens in the future : the things that someone or something will experience in the future ▪ They believed it was their *destiny* to be together. ▪ His parents believed that the priesthood was his *destiny*. [=that he would or should become a priest because fate or God intended it] ▪ The factory's closing shaped the *destiny* [=*fate*] of the entire town. ▪ She believes that people can choose/control their own *destinies*. [=that people can control what will happen to them]

2 [*noncount*] : a power that is believed to control what happens in the future ▪ She felt that *destiny* [=*fate*] had decided that she would one day be President. ▪ motivated by a sense of *destiny* — see also MANIFEST DESTINY

synonyms DESTINY, FATE, and LOT mean a future that someone or something will have. DESTINY and FATE both suggest that the future has been decided or planned by God or by some godlike power. DESTINY often suggests a future that includes something great and important. ▪ He was a great leader whose *destiny* was to free the people of his country. FATE often suggests a future that cannot be avoided and that is usually sad or unpleasant. ▪ It was the explorer's *fate* to die lost and alone. LOT suggests that someone's future has been decided by luck. ▪ It was not their *lot* in life to have children.

des•ti•tute /'dɛstə,tu:t, *Brit* 'dɛstə,tju:t/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*]

1 : extremely poor ▪ His business failures left him *destitute*.

2 *formal + literary* : without something that is needed or wanted — + *of* ▪ a lake *destitute of* fish ▪ a man *destitute of* wisdom

the destitute : people who are extremely poor : destitute people ▪ The charity provides food and clothing for *the destitute*. [=*the needy*]

– **des•ti•tu•tion** /,dɛstə'tu:ʃən, *Brit* ,dɛstə'tju:ʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ lives of *destitution* [=*poverty*]

de–stress /'di:'strɛs/ *verb* **-stress•es**; **-stressed**; **-stress•ing** [*no obj*] : to relax your body or mind : to stop feeling the effects of stress ▪ Taking a hot bath is a good way to *de-stress* [=*unwind*] after a busy day.

de•stroy /dɪ'strɔɪ/ *verb* **-stroys**; **-stroyed**; **-stroy•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to cause (something) to end or no longer exist : to cause the destruction of (something) ▪ Eventually our problems with money *destroyed* our marriage. ▪ All the files were deliberately *destroyed*. ▪ The disease *destroys* the body's ability to fight off illness. : to damage (something) so badly that it cannot be repaired ▪ The bomb blast *destroyed* the village. ▪ The scandal *destroyed* [=*ruined*] his reputation. ▪ The building was partially *destroyed* [=*demolished*] by fire.

2 : to kill (an animal) especially because it is sick, injured, or dangerous ▪ The dog had to be *destroyed* since its owner could not prevent it from attacking people.

3 *informal* : to defeat (someone or something) easily or completely ▪ They *destroyed* [=*demolished*] the other team 51–7.

de•stroy•er /dɪ'strɔjɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

1 : a small and fast military ship that protects bigger ships

2 : something that causes the destruction of something ▪ The pamphlet describes alcohol as a *destroyer* of families.

de•struc•tion /dɪ'strʌkʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the act or process of damaging something so badly that it no longer exists or cannot be repaired : the act or process of destroying something ▪ a scene of *destruction* ▪ War results in death and widespread *destruction*. ▪ We are trying to save the building from *destruction*. ▪ ***weapons of mass destruction*** [=weapons that can destroy entire buildings, cities, etc.] ▪ His phenomenal success carried within it the ***seeds of its own destruction***. [=the thing that made him successful eventually caused him to fail] — often + *of* ▪ the *destruction of* documents/evidence ▪ The storm caused the *destruction of* many homes. — see also SELF-DESTRUCTION

de•struc•tive /dɪ'strʌktɪv/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : causing a very large amount of damage : causing destruction or harm ▪ It was one of the most *destructive* storms in recent memory. ▪ She argued that the law was *destructive* of personal liberties. ▪ The school is concerned about the *destructive* behavior of a few students. ▪ These kinds of budget cuts can be *destructive* to morale. [=can damage morale] ▪ *destructive* criticism [=harsh criticism that hurts someone] — compare CONSTRUCTIVE; see also SELF-DESTRUCTIVE

– **de•struc•tive•ly** *adv* ▪ The dog behaves *destructively*. – **de•struc•tive•ness** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the *destructiveness* of the storm

des•ul•to•ry /'dɛsəl,tori, *Brit* 'dɛsəltri/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *formal*

1 : not having a plan or purpose ▪ *desultory* [=*aimless*] conversation.

2 : done without serious effort ▪ He made a *desultory* [=*half-hearted*] attempt to study.

– **des•ul•to•ri•ly** /,dɛsəl'torəli, *Brit* 'dɛsəltrəli/ *adv* ▪ Talk drifted *desultorily* from one topic to another.

de•tach /dɪ'tætʃ/ *verb* **-tach•es**; **-tached**; **-tach•ing**

1 : to separate (something) from something larger [+ *obj*] *Detach* the upper part of the form and return it with your payment. ▪ During the accident the trailer was *detached* from the car. [*no obj*] The brush *detaches* from the vacuum cleaner for easy cleaning. — opposite ATTACH

2 [+ *obj*] : to separate (yourself) *from* someone or something ▪ It can be difficult to *detach* yourself *from* the chaos of the situation. ▪ She has been trying to *detach* herself *from* an abusive relationship.

– **de•tach•able** /dɪ'tætʃəbəl/ *adj* ▪ The stereo is equipped with *detachable* speakers.

detached *adj*

1 [*more ~; most ~*] : not emotional : not influenced by emotions or personal interest ▪ They wanted the opinion of a *detached* [=*impartial, unbiased*] observer. ▪ The article takes a *detached* [=*objective*] view of the issue. ▪ He watched them work with a *detached* [=*indifferent*] amusement.

2 : not joined or connected : separate from another part or thing ▪ The house has a *detached* garage. ▪ a *detached* house [=a house that is not connected to any other house or building] — see also SEMIDETACHED

de•tach•ment /dɪ'tætʃmənt/ *noun, pl* **-ments**

1 [*noncount*] : lack of emotion or of personal interest ▪ I wish the article had approached the issue with a bit more *detachment*. ▪ In her films she views the modern world with an air/sense of *detachment*. [=*aloofness*] ▪ He was able to discuss their concerns with cool *detachment*. [=*impartiality*]

2 [*noncount*] **a** : the act or process of separating something from a larger thing ▪ The form is perforated to make *detachment* of the bottom section easier. **b** : a condition in which something has become separated from something else ▪ a patient diagnosed with ***retinal detachment*** [=a condition in which the retina of the eye is no longer connected to the eye as it should be]

3 [*count*] : a group of soldiers who have a special job or function ▪ A *detachment* of soldiers was called to assist the police. ▪ helicopter *detachments* [=groups of soldiers traveling in helicopters]

[1]de•tail /dɪ'teɪl, 'di:,teɪl/ *noun, pl* **-tails**

1 [*count*] **a** : a small part of something ▪ Every/each *detail* of the wedding was carefully planned. ▪ They designed every *detail* of the house. ▪ He planned the party ***down to the small-***

est/last/tiniest detail. [=he planned everything about the party] ▪ Don't ***sweat the details***. [=don't worry about minor things] **b** [*noncount*] : the small parts of something ▪ the wooden box's fine carved *detail* ▪ We admired the *detail* of the artist's work. ▪ Use a small paintbrush for the ***detail work***. [=decorative work or work done using small pieces] ▪ The job requires ***attention to detail***. ✧ If you have ***an eye for detail*** or ***a fine/good/keen eye for detail***, you are good at noticing small but important things that other people might not notice. ▪ It is helpful to have *a good eye for detail* when you are building a house. ▪ a filmmaker with *an eye for detail*

2 a [*count*] : a particular fact or piece of information about something or someone ▪ The article provides further *details*. ▪ You left out an important *detail* about their new baby: is it a girl or boy? ▪ The novel is full of historical *details*. **b** [*noncount*] : information about something or someone that is often specific or precise ▪ The book includes a wealth of *detail* on living conditions aboard ships at that time. ▪ The novel is full of historical *detail*. ▪ The book covers the topic of grammar at a ***level of detail*** that most people would find boring.

3 [*count*] : a special job that is given to a soldier or group of soldiers — usually singular ▪ They were assigned to security/maintenance/kitchen *detail*.

go into detail : to discuss or describe everything about something including the small or unimportant parts ▪ The newspaper reports *went into (great) detail* about his political background. ▪ I will try to tell the story without *going into* too much *detail*.

in detail : including a lot of information about something : without leaving out any important parts ▪ She explained *in detail* how they met. ▪ We will discuss/examine/explore the plan *in detail*. ▪ Please describe the scene *in* as much *detail* as you can. [=in a way that includes as much information as possible] ▪ We will talk about this issue *in* more/further/greater *detail* tomorrow.

[2]detail *verb* **-tails**; **-tailed**; **-tail•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to state particular facts or information about (something) : to describe or discuss the details of (something) ▪ The book *details* the series of events that led to the tragedy. ▪ She wrote a letter *detailing* her complaints.

2 *US* : to thoroughly clean (a car) in an attempt to make it look new ▪ I am going to have the car *detailed* [=(*Brit*) *valeted*] before I try to sell it.

3 *formal* : to choose (a person or group of people) to do a special job ▪ The Army has *detailed* him to investigate the complaints. — often used as *(be) detailed* ▪ The infantry officer *was detailed* to another unit during maneuvers.

detailed *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : including many details : including a lot information ▪ a *detailed* report/analysis ▪ We need a more *detailed* comparison of the available options. ▪ a *detailed* account/description ▪ He gave us very *detailed* instructions. ▪ *detailed* maps/pictures

detailing *noun* [*noncount*]

1 : small decorative parts : details added to a building, piece of clothing, etc. ▪ the building's fine architectural *detailing* ▪ a bowl with gold *detailing*

2 *US* : the act or process of thoroughly cleaning a car in an attempt to make it look new — called also (*Brit*) *valeting*

de•tain /dɪ'teɪn/ *verb* **-tains**; **-tained**; **-tain•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to officially prevent (someone) from leaving a place : to hold or keep (someone) in a prison or some other place ▪ They were *detained* by the police for questioning. ▪ He claimed he had been illegally *detained*.

2 *formal* : to keep or prevent (someone) from leaving or arriving at the expected time ▪ We were *detained* [=*delayed*] for 15 minutes by a flat tire. ▪ Unexpected business had *detained* her.

– **de•tain•ment** /dɪ'teɪnmənt/ *noun, pl* **-ments** [*noncount*] He demanded to be released after two hours of *detainment*. [*count*] He ordered the *detainments* of two suspects.

de•tain•ee /dɪˌteɪ'ni:/ *noun, pl* **-ees** [*count*] : a person who is being kept in a prison especially for political reasons : a person who is being detained

de•tect /dɪ'tɛkt/ *verb* **-tects**; **-tect•ed**; **-tect•ing** [+ *obj*] : to discover or notice the presence of (something that is hidden or hard to see, hear, taste, etc.) ▪ The test is used to *detect* the presence of alcohol in the blood. ▪ This type of cancer is difficult to *detect* in its early stages. ▪ He thought he *detected* [=*sensed*] a note of irony in her comments.

– **de•tect•able** /dɪ'tɛktəbəl/ *adj* ▪ a dim star that is only *detectable* with a powerful telescope ▪ sounds barely *detectable* by the human ear

de•tec•tion /dɪ'tɛkʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the act or process of discovering, finding, or noticing something ▪ I don't know how the errors managed to avoid/escape *detection* for so long. ▪ methods of crime *detection* — sometimes used before another noun ▪ a *detection* system/device

[1]de•tec•tive /dɪ'tɛktɪv/ *noun, pl* **-tives** [*count*]

1 : a police officer whose job is to find information about crimes that have occurred and to catch criminals ▪ She is a *detective* on the police force. ▪ *Detective* Sgt. Lee is working on the case. ▪ a homicide *detective*

2 : a person whose job is to find information about something or someone : PRIVATE INVESTIGATOR ▪ She hired a *detective* to follow her husband.

[2]detective *adj, always used before a noun*

1 : done in order to find out hidden or unknown information ▪ We had to do some *detective* work to find out who used to own the property.

2 : of or relating to crimes and detectives ▪ a *detective* story ▪ He enjoys reading *detective* novels.

de•tec•tor /dɪ'tɛktɚ/ *noun, pl* **-tors** [*count*] : a device that can tell if a substance or object is present : a device that detects the presence of something ▪ a smoke/radar *detector* ▪ using metal *detectors* to improve safety at airports — see also LIE DETECTOR

dé•tente *or* **de•tente** /deɪ'tɑ:nt/ *noun, formal* : an ending of unfriendly or hostile relations between countries [*noncount*] as the countries move toward *détente* ▪ a period of *détente* [*count*] the start of a *détente*

de•ten•tion /dɪ'tɛnʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**

1 a : the act of keeping someone in a prison or similar place [*noncount*] the *detention* of suspected terrorists ▪ *detention* camps/facilities [*count*] The jail is only used for brief *detentions*. **b** [*noncount*] : the state of being kept in a prison or similar place ▪ Dozens of protesters were held/kept ***in detention*** for six hours. [=were detained for six hours]

2 : a punishment in which a student is required to stay at school after the rest of the students have left [*count*] They both got/received three *detentions* this year. [*noncount*] He got *detention* for being late to class.

detention center (*US*) *or Brit* **detention centre** *noun, pl* **~ -ters** [*count*]

1 : a place where people who have entered a country illegally are kept for a period of time

2 : a place where people who have committed crimes are kept as punishment ▪ She spent several months in a *detention center* for women. ▪ a juvenile *detention center*

de•ter /dɪ'tɚ/ *verb* **-ters**; **-terred**; **-ter•ring** [+ *obj*]

1 : to cause (someone) to decide not to do something ▪ Some potential buyers will be *deterred* by the price. — often + *from* ▪ They hoped that the new law would *deter* advertisers *from* making false claims. ▪ The heavy fines should *deter* [=*discourage*] people *from* dumping garbage here.

2 : to prevent (something) from happening ▪ He played an important role in international efforts to *deter* [=*prevent*] nuclear war. ▪ Painting the metal will *deter* rust.

de•ter•gent /dɪ'tɚʤənt/ *noun, pl* **-gents** : a powder or liquid that is used to clean clothes, dishes, etc. : a chemical substance that is like soap [*count*] We have tried different laundry *detergents*. [*noncount*] a box of *detergent* — see picture at KITCHEN

de•te•ri•o•rate /dɪ'tirijəˌreɪt/ *verb* **-rates**; **-rat•ed**; **-rating**

1 [*no obj*] : to become worse as time passes ▪ The weather gradually *deteriorated* [=*worsened*] as the day went on. ▪ Her health continues to *deteriorate*. [=*decline*] ▪ efforts to save a *deteriorating* rain forest ▪ The disagreement ***deteriorated into*** a fight. [=the disagreement got worse and eventually became a fight]

2 [+ *obj*] : to make (something) worse ▪ Exposure to rain and sun will gradually *deteriorate* the paint.

– **deteriorated** *adj* ▪ a *deteriorated* [=*run-down, dilapidated*] building ▪ a badly *deteriorated* part of the city

de•te•ri•o•ra•tion /dɪˌtirijə'reɪʃən/ *noun* [*singular*] : the act or process of becoming worse ▪ economic *deterioration* ▪ the gradual *deterioration* of the weather ▪ a *deterioration* of academic standards ▪ a *deterioration* in quality

de•ter•min•able /dɪ'tɚmənəbəl/ *adj, formal* : possible to know or calculate : able to be determined ▪ a *determinable* amount/value ▪ The cause of the accident is not *determinable* at this time.

de•ter•mi•nant /dɪ'tɚmənənt/ *noun, pl* **-nants** [*count*] *formal* : a thing that controls or influences what happens — of-

ten + *of* ▪ Level of education is often a *determinant of* income.

de•ter•mi•nate /dɪ'tɚmənət/ *adj, formal* : definitely known or decided ▪ a *determinate* period of time — opposite INDETERMINATE

de•ter•mi•na•tion /dɪ,tɚmə'neɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**

1 [*noncount*] : a quality that makes you continue trying to do or achieve something that is difficult ▪ What he lacked in talent he made up for in *determination*. ▪ dogged/fierce/steely/stubborn *determination* — often followed by *to* + *verb* ▪ We all respected her fierce *determination to succeed*. — see also SELF-DETERMINATION

2 *formal* : the act of finding out or calculating something [*count*] age *determinations* — often + *of* ▪ They were unable to make an accurate *determination of* the ship's position. [*noncount*] The new instruments allow for more precise *determination of* the size of the tumor.

3 *formal* : the act of officially deciding something [*noncount*] The document will be used for *determination* of ownership. [*count*] judicial *determinations* ▪ The inspectors made the *determination* that the building was unsafe. [=they determined/decided that the building was unsafe]

de•ter•mine /dɪ'tɚmən/ *verb* **-mines**; **-mined**; **-min•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 a : to officially decide (something) especially because of evidence or facts : to establish (something) exactly or with authority ▪ The town has finally *determined* ownership of the land. = The town has finally *determined* who owns the land. ▪ The new policy will be *determined* by a special committee. **b** : to be the cause of or reason for (something) ▪ The demand for a product *determines* its price. ▪ He believes that one's personality is *determined* mostly by genetics. ✧ A ***determining factor*** is a reason to make a particular choice or decision. ▪ Price was the *determining factor* in their decision.

2 : to learn or find out (something) by getting information ▪ An autopsy will be performed to *determine* the cause of death. ▪ They are unable to accurately *determine* the ship's position at this time. ▪ Scholars have *determined* that the book was written in the late 16th century. ▪ I am trying to *determine* what happened and when.

3 *formal* : to make a decision : DECIDE ▪ They are *determining* if/whether they should stay. ▪ They *determined* to leave immediately. ▪ He *determined* [=*resolved*] that he would learn a foreign language.

determined *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 *not used before a noun* : having a strong feeling that you are going to do something and that you will not allow anyone or anything to stop you — often followed by *to* + *verb* ▪ They are *determined to find out* the cause of the accident. ▪ Her early failures made her even more *determined to succeed*. ▪ We are *determined* not *to let* it happen again. ▪ We were ***bound and determined*** [=very determined] *to finish* the project on time. — often + *that* ▪ We are *determined that* it will never happen again.

2 : not weak or uncertain : having or showing determination to do something ▪ He is a very *determined* [=*resolute*] opponent. ▪ We are making a *determined* effort to correct our mistakes. ▪ a *determined* smile

– **de•ter•mined•ly** *adv* ▪ They fought *determinedly* for a new trial. ▪ She is a *determinedly* cheerful hostess.

de•ter•mi•ner /dɪ'tɚmənɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *grammar* : a word (such as "a," "the," "some," "any," "my," or "your") that comes before a noun and is used to show which thing is being referred to

de•ter•min•ism /dɪ'tɚmə,nɪzəm/ *noun* [*noncount*] *philosophy* : the belief that all events are caused by things that happened before them and that people have no real ability to make choices or control what happens

– **de•ter•min•ist** /dɪ'tɚmənəst/ *noun, pl* **-ists** [*count*] – **de•ter•min•is•tic** /dɪ,tʰɚmə'nɪstɪk/ *or* **determinist** *adj* ▪ a *deterministic* view of life ▪ *determinist* philosophers

de•ter•rence /dɪ'tɚrəns/ *noun* [*noncount*] *formal*

1 : the act of making someone decide not to do something : the act of preventing a particular act or behavior from happening ▪ the *deterrence* of crime

2 *politics* : the policy of developing a lot of military power so that other countries will not attack your country ▪ The author argues that *deterrence* is no longer the best way to prevent war. ▪ nuclear *deterrence*

de•ter•rent /dɪ'tɚrənt/ *noun, pl* **-rents** [*count*] : something that makes someone decide not to do something ▪ We would like to go, but cost is a major *deterrent*. ▪ The security alarm is a theft *deterrent*. ▪ a crime *deterrent* — often + *to* or *against* ▪ They argued over whether the death penalty is an effective *deterrent to* murder. ▪ They hope that the new law will be a *deterrent against* false advertising.

– **deterrent** /dɪ'tɚrənt/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ They hope that the new law will have a *deterrent* effect.

de•test /dɪ'tɛst/ *verb* **-tests**; **-test•ed**; **-test•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to dislike (someone or something) very strongly ▪ Those two really seem to *detest* [=*hate*, *despise*] each other. ▪ She *detested* [=*loathed*] living in the city.

de•test•able /dɪ'tɛstəbəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* : causing or deserving strong dislike : deserving to be detested ▪ He found her selfish attitude *detestable*. [=*contemptible*, *despicable*] ▪ He is a *detestable* villain.

– **de•test•ably** /dɪ'tɛstəbli/ *adv* ▪ a *detestably* cruel act

de•throne /dɪ'θroʊn/ *verb* **-thrones**; **-throned**; **-thron•ing** [+ *obj*] : to take away the power and authority of (a king or queen) : to remove (a king or queen) from power — now usually used figuratively ▪ Last year's champion was *dethroned* in the first round of the play-offs.

– **de•throne•ment** /dɪ'θroʊnmənt/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the *dethronement* of the queen/champion

det•o•nate /'dɛtn̩,eɪt/ *verb* **-nates**; **-nat•ed**; **-nat•ing** : to explode or to cause (something, such as a bomb) to explode [*no obj*] They knew that the bomb could *detonate* [=*blow up*] at any time. [+ *obj*] The first atomic bomb was *detonated* in 1945.

– **det•o•na•tion** /,dɛtn̩'eɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count, noncount*]

det•o•na•tor /'dɛtn̩,eɪtɚ/ *noun, pl* **-tors** [*count*] : a device that is used to make a bomb explode

[1]de•tour /'di:,tuɚ/ *noun, pl* **-tours** [*count*]

1 : the act of going or traveling to a place along a way that is different from the usual or planned way ▪ After a number of unexpected *detours*, we finally arrived at our destination. ▪ The little restaurant is worth a *detour*. ▪ We had to ***make a detour*** around the heaviest traffic. ▪ We ***took a detour*** from the main streets. — often used figuratively ▪ After teaching for many years, he *made a brief detour* into professional cooking. [=he worked as a cook for a short period of time] ▪ The conversation *took a detour* onto another topic.

2 *US* : a road, highway, etc., that you travel on when the the usual way of traveling cannot be used ▪ The road is closed ahead, so traffic will have to follow the *detour*. ▪ a *detour* sign/route — called also (*Brit*) *diversion*

[2]detour *verb* **-tours**; **-toured**; **-tour•ing** *US*

1 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [*no obj*] : to go along a way that is different from and usually longer than the usual or planned way ▪ We *detoured around* the heaviest traffic. — often used figuratively ▪ After teaching for many years, he briefly *detoured into* professional cooking.

2 [+ *obj*] **a** : to make (someone or something) go in a direction that is not planned or expected ▪ A police officer was *detouring* traffic around the scene of the accident. ▪ Traffic will be *detoured* to 72nd Street. — often used figuratively ▪ Her athletic career was *detoured* by a series of injuries. **b** : to avoid (something) by going around it ▪ Commuters are being advised to *detour* [=*bypass*] this section of the road. — often used figuratively ▪ You can *detour* the whole process by applying online.

de•tox /'di:,tɑ:ks/ *noun, pl* **-tox•es** *informal* : special treatment that helps a person to stop using drugs or alcohol [*noncount*] He spent one week in *detox*. ▪ The famous writer recently went into *detox*. [*count*] She has been through two *detoxes* in the past year. — often used before another noun ▪ a *detox* center/clinic/program

de•tox•i•fy /di'tɑ:ksə,faɪ/ *verb* **-fies**; **-fied**; **-fy•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to remove a poisonous or harmful substance from (something) ▪ a special tea that is supposed to *detoxify* the body

2 : to cause (someone) to stop using drugs or alcohol by providing special help and treatment ▪ a drug addict who is being *detoxified*

– **de•tox•i•fi•ca•tion** /di,tɑ:ksəfə'keɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the *detoxification* of drug addicts — often used before another noun ▪ a *detoxification* [=*detox*] process/program

de•tract /dɪ'trækt/ *verb* **-tracts**; **-tract•ed**; **-tract•ing**

detract from [*phrasal verb*] ***detract from (something)*** *formal* : to reduce the strength, value, or importance of (something) ▪ They worried that the scandal would seriously *detract from* [=*diminish*, *hurt*] her chances for reelection. ▪ The overcooked vegetables *detracted* somewhat *from* an otherwise fine meal.

de•trac•tor /dɪˈtræktɚ/ *noun, pl* **-tors** [*count*] *formal* : a person who criticizes something or someone ▪ Despite his popularity, his many *detractors* [=*critics*] still think his work is overrated. ▪ Even her *detractors* had to admit that she had made the company successful.

de•train /diˈtreɪn/ *verb* **-trains**; **-trained**; **-train•ing** [*no obj*] : to get off a train ▪ They were the first passengers to *detrain*.

det•ri•ment /ˈdɛtrəmənt/ *noun, formal*
1 [*count*] : something that will cause damage or injury to something or someone — usually singular; often + *to* ▪ He saw the new regulations as a *detriment to* progress.
2 [*noncount*] : the act of causing damage or injury to something or someone ▪ He puts all his time into his career, ***to the detriment of*** [=in a way that is harmful to] his personal life. ▪ relying on bad advice, much ***to your detriment*** [=in a way that is harmful to you] — often + *to* ▪ She was able to work long hours ***without detriment to*** her health. [=without harming her health]

det•ri•men•tal /ˌdɛtrəˈmɛntl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* : causing damage or injury ▪ The *detrimental* [=*harmful*] effects of overeating are well known. — often + *to* ▪ She argues that watching too much TV is *detrimental to* a child's intellectual and social development.
– **det•ri•men•tal•ly** *adv*

de•tri•tus /dɪˈtraɪtəs/ *noun* [*noncount*] *formal* : the pieces that are left when something breaks, falls apart, is destroyed, etc. ▪ the *detritus* of ancient civilizations ▪ As he packed, he sifted through the *detritus of* a failed relationship.

deuce /ˈduːs, *Brit* ˈdjuːs/ *noun, pl* **deuc•es**
1 [*count*] *chiefly US, informal* : a playing card that has the number two on it or two symbols on it ▪ a pair of *deuces* [=*twos*]
2 *tennis* : a situation in which each side has a score of 40 [*count*] She beat her opponent after eight *deuces*. [*noncount*] The score is *deuce*.
3 [*singular*] *old-fashioned* + *informal* — used to make a question or statement more forceful ▪ Who the *deuce* [=*devil, hell*] was that? ▪ We've had ***a deuce of a*** time finding a good doctor. [=it has been very difficult to find a good doctor]

de•us ex ma•chi•na /ˈdejəsˌɛksˈmɑːkɪnə/ *noun* [*singular*] : a character or thing that suddenly enters the story in a novel, play, movie, etc., and solves a problem that had previously seemed impossible to solve

deutsche mark *or* **deutsch•mark** /ˈdɔɪʧˌmɑɚk/ *noun, pl* ~ **marks** [*count*] : a basic unit of money that was formerly used in Germany; *also* : a coin or bill representing one deutsche mark — called also *mark, German mark*

de•val•ue /diˈvælju/ *verb* **-ues**; **-ued**; **-u•ing**
1 *finance* : to lower the value of a country's money so that it is worth less when it is traded with another country's money [+ *obj*] The government has decided to *devalue* its currency. [*no obj*] Economic woes forced the government to *devalue*.
2 [+ *obj*] : to cause (something or someone) to seem or to be less valuable or important ▪ He argues that placing too many requirements on schools *devalues* the education they provide. ▪ Domestic work is often *devalued*. [=*undervalued*]
– **de•val•u•a•tion** /diˌvæljəˈweɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*noncount*] attempts to avoid *devaluation* [*count*] currency *devaluations*

dev•as•tate /ˈdɛvəˌsteɪt/ *verb* **-tates**; **-tat•ed**; **-tat•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to destroy much or most of (something) : to cause great damage or harm to (something) ▪ The flood *devastated* the town. ▪ The disease has *devastated* the area's oak tree population. ▪ The hurricane left the island completely *devastated*. ▪ The town was *devastated* [=*ruined*] when the factory closed.
2 : to cause (someone) to feel extreme emotional pain — usually used as *(be) devastated* ▪ She *was devastated* by the breakup of her marriage.
– **dev•as•ta•tion** /ˌdɛvəˈsteɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ economic *devastation* ▪ the *devastation* of war [=the damage and destruction caused by war]

devastating *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : causing great damage or harm ▪ It was a *devastating* flood. ▪ a rare but *devastating* disease ▪ *devastating* consequences — often + *to* ▪ The fall in prices dealt a *devastating* blow *to* the company.
2 : causing extreme emotional pain ▪ The news was *devastating*. ▪ They suffered a *devastating* loss.
3 : extremely effective or powerful ▪ The movie is a *devastating* satire of the current political scene. ▪ a writer known for his *devastating* wit
– **dev•as•tat•ing•ly** *adv* ▪ a *devastatingly* accurate portrayal

de•vel•op /dɪˈvɛləp/ *verb* **-ops**; **-oped**; **-op•ing**
1 a [+ *obj*] : to cause (something) to grow or become bigger or more advanced ▪ She has been exercising regularly to *develop* her back muscles. ▪ The story was later *developed* into a novel. ▪ The island has *developed* its economy around tourism. ▪ The course is designed to *develop* your writing skills.
b [*no obj*] : to grow or become bigger or more advanced ▪ A blossom *develops* from a bud. ▪ The doctor says that the child is *developing* normally. ▪ In this class, we will be learning about how languages *develop*. — often + *into* ▪ In a short time, the town *developed into* a city.
2 [+ *obj*] : to create (something) over a period of time ▪ Scientists are *developing* a treatment for the disease. ▪ The company has *developed* a new method for recycling old tires.
3 [+ *obj*] : to make (an idea, argument, theory, etc.) easier to understand by giving more information ▪ He *develops* the concept/theory more fully in his book. ▪ You need to *develop* your argument more.
4 [*no obj*] : to gradually begin to exist ▪ A dangerous situation is *developing*. ▪ Romantic relationships often *develop* between coworkers. ▪ Towns *developed* along this trade route hundreds of years ago.
5 [+ *obj*] : to gradually begin to have (something) ▪ As he grew older he *developed* [=*acquired*] a taste for expensive wines. ▪ She *developed* an interest in music when she was just a child. ▪ He *developed* a close relationship with her.
6 [+ *obj*] : to begin to suffer from or be affected by (an illness, problem, etc.) ▪ people who *develop* cancer late in life ▪ The patient later *developed* a cough. ▪ At some point the pipe *developed* a leak.
7 [*no obj*] *chiefly US* : to become known or understood ▪ The facts of what had happened slowly *developed* over the next several days. ▪ It eventually *developed* [=*turned out*] that he had forgotten to mail the package.
8 [+ *obj*] **a** : to build houses or other buildings on (land) ▪ A builder wants to *develop* a large piece of land along the river.
b : to make (something) available for use ▪ The government plans to *develop* the natural resources of this region.
9 [+ *obj*] : to make a photograph from (film) by using special chemicals and a special process ▪ Our vacation pictures should be *developed* by tomorrow. ▪ Did you get the film *developed* yet?
– **de•vel•op•able** /dɪˈvɛləpəbəl/ *adj* ▪ *developable* land

developed *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]
1 *of a country, society, etc.* : having many industries and relatively few poor people who are unable to buy the things they need ▪ The disease is almost unheard of in *developed* countries. — opposite DEVELOPING, UNDERDEVELOPED
2 : larger or more advanced ▪ Many dogs have a highly *developed* sense of smell. [=a very strong sense of smell] ▪ The younger plant has a less *developed* root system.

de•vel•op•er /dɪˈvɛləpɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** : a person or thing that develops something: such as **a** [*count*] : a person or company that builds and sells houses or other buildings on a piece of land ▪ a real estate *developer* **b** [*count*] : a person or company that creates computer software ▪ a software *developer* **c** [*noncount*] : a chemical that is used to develop photographs

developing *adj, always used before a noun*
1 : having few industries and many poor people who are unable to buy the things they need ▪ international programs to assist *developing* [=*underdeveloped*] nations — opposite DEVELOPED
2 : growing larger or more advanced ▪ a *developing* embryo ▪ the *developing* crisis

de•vel•op•ment /dɪˈvɛləpmənt/ *noun, pl* **-ments**
1 [*noncount*] : the act or process of growing or causing something to grow or become larger or more advanced ▪ Good nutrition is important for proper muscle *development*. ▪ efforts to promote economic *development* [=*growth*] ▪ experts in child *development* ▪ The company offers many opportunities for professional/personal/career *development*. — often + *of* ▪ the *development of* the English language ▪ The vitamin may help prevent the *development of* cancer.
2 [*noncount*] **a** : the act or process of creating something over a period of time ▪ The software is still in the early stages of *development*. — often + *of* ▪ The company is working on (the) *development of* a new method for recycling old tires. — see also RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT **b** : the state of

being created or made more advanced ▪ The new system is still ***under development***. [=being developed] ▪ She has a number of projects ***in development***. [=(*informal*) *in the works*]

3 [*count*] : something that has happened or has become known ▪ I try to keep up with the latest *developments* in computer technology. ▪ Have there been any new *developments* in the case?

4 a [*count*] : an area of land with buildings that were all built at around the same time ▪ a condominium *development* ▪ new commercial and industrial *developments* — see also HOUSING DEVELOPMENT **b** [*noncount*] : the process of building a group of houses or other buildings on an area of land ▪ A large piece of land along the river was sold for *development*.

5 [*noncount*] : the chemical process by which photographic film is used to make a photograph ▪ chemicals used for the *development* of film

de•vel•op•men•tal /di,vɛləp'mɛntl/ *adj*

1 : of or relating to the growth or development of someone or something ▪ A drop in temperature can slow the plant's *developmental* process. ▪ *developmental* biology/psychology ▪ a child with *developmental* abnormalities/defects/disabilities/problems ▪ My theory is still in its *developmental* stage.

2 : designed to help a child grow or learn ▪ *developmental* toys

– **de•vel•op•men•tal•ly** *adv* ▪ a ***developmentally disabled*** child [=a child who is not able to develop in the normal way because of a physical or mental problem]

[1]de•vi•ant /'di:vijənt/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : different from what is considered to be normal or morally correct ▪ a *deviant* lifestyle ▪ a study of *deviant* behavior among criminals

– **de•vi•ance** /'di:vijəns/ *also* **de•vi•an•cy** /'di:vijənsi/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ sexual *deviance/deviancy*

[2]deviant *noun, pl* **-ants** [*count*] : a person who behaves in a way that most people consider to be not normal or morally correct ▪ a sexual *deviant*

de•vi•ate /'di:vi,eɪt/ *verb* **-ates**; **-at•ed**; **-at•ing** [*no obj*] : to do something that is different or to be different from what is usual or expected — usually + *from* ▪ He almost never *deviates from* his usual routine. ▪ The investigation showed that the airplane had *deviated* [=*strayed*] *from* its scheduled route. ▪ This pattern of behavior *deviates* slightly *from* the norm.

de•vi•a•tion /,di:vi'eɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**

1 : an action, behavior, or condition that is different from what is usual or expected [*count*] There have been slight *deviations* in the satellite's orbit. ▪ Having juice instead of coffee was a *deviation* from his usual routine. [*noncount*] The pattern's *deviation* from the norm is significant. ▪ The book discusses sexual *deviation* [=*deviance*] in serial killers.

2 [*count*] *technical* : the difference between the average of a group of numbers and a particular number in that group

de•vice /dɪ'vaɪs/ *noun, pl* **-vic•es** [*count*]

1 : an object, machine, or piece of equipment that has been made for some special purpose ▪ mechanical *devices* ▪ The store sells TVs, VCRs, and other electronic *devices*. ▪ a hidden recording *device*

2 : a weapon that explodes ▪ an explosive *device* [=a bomb] ▪ agreeing to dismantle all nuclear *devices*

3 : something that is done in order to achieve a particular effect ▪ a marketing *device* ▪ a useful mnemonic *device* for remembering the names of the planets ▪ The company's method of tracking expenses is just a *device* to make it seem more profitable.

4 : something in a book, play, poem, movie, etc., that is used to achieve a particular effect ▪ He is known for his use of irony and other literary *devices*. ▪ a contrived plot *device* ▪ the play's use of traditional comic *devices* such as slapstick

leave you to your own devices ✧ If someone ***leaves you to your own devices*** or you are ***left to your own devices***, you are allowed to do what you want or what you are able to do without being controlled or helped by anyone else. ▪ The students were *left to their own devices* when the teacher failed to appear on time. ▪ *Left to its own devices*, the school would accept only the most advanced students.

dev•il /'dɛvl/ *noun, pl* **-ils**

1 a *the Devil* : the most powerful spirit of evil in Christianity, Judaism, and Islam who is often represented as the ruler of hell ▪ He went to the Halloween party dressed up as *the Devil*. [=*Satan*] **b** [*count*] : an evil spirit ▪ an imaginary world haunted by ghosts and *devils* [=*demons*]

2 [*count*] *informal* **a** : a person who does bad things or causes trouble usually in a way that is not too serious ▪ She is a tricky *devil*, so be careful. ▪ Those kids can be little *devils* sometimes. **b** : a person (especially a man) who is lucky, unlucky, etc. ▪ The ***poor devil*** [=*poor guy*] broke his leg on the first day of his skiing vacation. ▪ He's such a ***lucky devil*** that he'll probably win the lottery someday.

3 *the devil* *informal* — used to make a statement or question more forceful ▪ What *the devil* are you talking about? ▪ Where *the devil* have you been?

4 [*singular*] *informal* : something that is very difficult or that causes a lot of trouble ▪ The shoes look great, but they're ***the devil*** to walk in. [=they are very difficult to walk in] — usually used in the phrase ***a devil of*** ▪ The new regulations have created *a devil of* a problem [=a very difficult problem] for many small businesses. ▪ He had ***a devil of a time*** getting another job. [=he found it very difficult to get another job] — see also *the devil to pay* at [1]PAY

be a devil *Brit, informal* — used to tell someone who is not sure about doing something to go ahead and do it ▪ "I don't know if I should eat anything else." "Oh, go on, *be a devil*, order dessert!"

better the devil you know than the devil you don't — used to say that it is better to deal with a difficult person or situation you know than with a new person or situation that could be worse

between the devil and the deep blue sea *old-fashioned* : in a situation that is difficult because you must choose between two unpleasant things ▪ She felt caught *between the devil and the deep blue sea*. [=in a very bad situation]

go to the devil *informal* — used to forcefully and rudely tell someone to go away and leave you alone ▪ She angrily told him to *go to the devil*. [=(more commonly) *go to hell*]

like the devil *informal* **1** : very much ▪ I'm sorry to hear about your injury. It must hurt *like the devil*. **2** : with a lot of energy and speed ▪ He ran *like the devil*. [=he ran very fast]

speak/talk of the devil *informal* — used in speech to say that someone you have been talking about has unexpectedly appeared ▪ "Well, *speak of the devil*! We were just talking about you!"

dev•iled (*US*) *or Brit* **dev•illed** /'dɛvld/ *adj, always used before a noun* : spicy or highly seasoned ▪ *deviled* eggs/ham

dev•il•ish /'dɛvlɪʃ/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : evil and cruel ▪ a *devilish* [=*sinister*] villain ▪ *devilish* [=*diabolical*] tricks

2 : showing a desire to cause trouble but in a way that is not serious ▪ She was attracted by his *devilish* charm. ▪ There was a *devilish* look of mischief in her eyes. ▪ a *devilish* [=*mischievous*] grin

have a devilish time *informal + somewhat old-fashioned* : to have a difficult time doing something ▪ We *had a devilish time* finding a parking space.

– **dev•il•ish•ly** /'dɛvlɪʃli/ *adv* ▪ a *devilishly* cruel villain ▪ a *devilishly* attractive man ▪ a *devilishly* [=very] hard/difficult problem

dev•il–may–care /,dɛvl,meɪ'keə/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : relaxed and without worry ▪ He has a *devil-may-care* attitude about life.

dev•il•ment /'dɛvlmənt/ *noun* [*noncount*] *chiefly Brit, formal* : behavior that causes trouble ▪ engaging in all kinds of *devilment* [=*mischief*] : a desire to cause trouble ▪ Ruffians were breaking windows out of sheer *devilment*.

devil's advocate *noun, pl* ~ **-cates** [*count*] : a person who expresses an opinion that disagrees with others so that there will be an interesting discussion about some issue ▪ Teachers often ***play devil's advocate*** to provoke discussion in the classroom.

devil's food cake *noun, pl* ~ **cakes** [*count, noncount*] *US* : a sweet chocolate cake — compare ANGEL FOOD CAKE

de•vi•ous /'di:vijəs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : willing to lie and trick people in order to get what is wanted ▪ a dishonest and *devious* politician ▪ The company was accused of using *devious* [=*dishonest, deceptive*] methods/ways to get the contract.

2 *formal* : not straight or direct : having many twists and turns ▪ He took us by a *devious* route to the center of the city.

– **de•vi•ous•ly** *adv* – **de•vi•ous•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

de•vise /dɪ'vaɪz/ *verb* **-vis•es**; **-vised**; **-vis•ing** [+ *obj*] : to invent or plan (something that is difficult or complicated) ▪ They have *devised* a new method for converting sunlight into electricity. ▪ She is accused of *devising* [=*hatching*] a plot to overthrow the government.

de•void /dɪ'vɔɪd/ *adj*

devoid of : not having (something usual or expected) : com-

pletely without (something) ▪ He is *devoid of* (any) ambition. [=he has no ambition] ▪ The landscape seems to be completely *devoid of* life.

de•vo•lu•tion /ˌdɛvəˈluːʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the act or process by which a central government gives power, property, etc., to local groups or governments ▪ *devolution* of power

de•volve /dɪˈvɑːlv/ *verb* **-volves**; **-volved**; **-volv•ing** *formal*

1 [*no obj*] *chiefly US* : to gradually go from an advanced state to a less advanced state ▪ She cynically asserts that our species is *devolving*. ▪ Somehow the debate *devolved* into a petty competition to see who could get more applause. — opposite EVOLVE

2 : to pass (responsibility, power, etc.) from one person or group to another person or group at a lower level of authority — + *to, on*, or *upon* [+ *obj*] Community leaders hope that the new government will *devolve* more power *to/on/upon* the community itself. [*no obj*] Responsibility has *devolved to/on* the individual teachers.

3 [*no obj*] : to be given to someone after the owner has died — + *to, on*, or *upon* ▪ Upon his death, the estate *devolved to/on/upon* a distant cousin. [=a distant cousin inherited the estate]

de•vote /dɪˈvoʊt/ *verb* **-votes**; **-vot•ed**; **-vot•ing**

devote to [*phrasal verb*] ***devote (something) to (something or someone)*** : to decide that (something) will be used for (a special purpose) : to use (time, money, energy, attention, etc.) for (something) ▪ They *devote* [=*dedicate*] an hour every day *to* worship. ▪ She plans to *devote* part of her vacation *to* reading. ▪ Some of the money they raise will be *devoted to* repairing the church's roof. ▪ Part of the class was *devoted to* questions from last week's reading. ▪ The magazine will *devote* an entire issue *to* this year's winner of the Nobel Peace Prize. ▪ He *devoted* [=*dedicated*] his life/time *to* helping the poor. = He ***devoted himself to*** helping the poor. [=he used his time, energy, etc., to help the poor] ▪ She *devoted herself to* her family.

devoted *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : having strong love or loyalty for something or someone ▪ a rock star's most *devoted* fans ▪ The author's *devoted* [=*loyal, faithful*] readers have been eagerly waiting for the new book. ▪ The TV show has a *devoted* following. — often + *to* ▪ He remains *devoted to* his wife. ▪ Her grandchildren are *devoted to* her.

– **de•vot•ed•ly** *adv* ▪ They worked *devotedly* [=*faithfully*] to help him win reelection.

dev•o•tee /ˌdɛˌvoʊˈtiː/ *noun, pl* **-tees** [*count*]

1 : a person who enjoys or is interested in something very much ▪ The nightclub is popular among jazz *devotees*. — often + *of* ▪ She is a *devotee of* Italian cooking. ▪ a *devotee of* the arts

2 : a person who has very strong loyalty to a particular religion or religious figure ▪ a group of religious *devotees*

de•vo•tion /dɪˈvoʊʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**

1 [*singular*] : a feeling of strong love or loyalty : the quality of being devoted ▪ acts of *devotion* ▪ She has cared for the poor with selfless *devotion*. ▪ The *devotion* they felt for each other was obvious. — often + *to* ▪ I admire his *devotion to* his wife. ▪ She has a strong *devotion to* the cause.

2 [*noncount*] : the use of time, money, energy, etc., for a particular purpose ▪ The project will require the *devotion* of a great deal of time and money.

3 *devotions* [*plural*] : prayer, worship, or other religious activities that are done in private rather than in a religious service ▪ They spend an hour each morning at their *devotions*.

de•vo•tion•al /dɪˈvoʊʃənl/ *adj* : relating to or used in religious services ▪ *devotional* music/literature

de•vour /dɪˈvawɚ/ *verb* **-vours**; **-voured**; **-vour•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to quickly eat all of (something) especially in a way that shows that you are very hungry ▪ He *devoured* everything on his plate. ▪ The lions *devoured* their prey. ***synonyms*** see EAT

2 : to enjoy (something) in a way that shows you are excited about it: such as **a** : to read (something) quickly and with much enthusiasm ▪ She *devoured* every golf magazine she could find. **b** : to look at (something) with much enjoyment or enthusiasm ▪ He watched intently, *devouring* the scene before him with his eyes.

3 : to destroy (something) completely ▪ The forest was *devoured* [=*consumed*] by fire.

4 *of an emotion* : to greatly affect or control (someone) ▪ Jealousy *devoured* [=*consumed*] him. — usually used as *(be) devoured* ▪ She *was devoured* by guilt/remorse.

de•vout /dɪˈvaʊt/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : deeply religious : devoted to a particular religion ▪ They are *devout* Catholics.

2 a : loyal to something : devoted to a particular belief, organization, person, etc. ▪ His parents are *devout* [=*staunch*] believers in the value of a good education. **b** : serious and sincere ▪ It is his *devout* wish to help people in need.

– **de•vout•ly** *adv* ▪ a *devoutly* religious family ▪ It is ***a thing devoutly to be wished***. [=a thing worth wishing for; a thing you want very much to happen]

dew /ˈduː, *Brit* ˈdjuː/ *noun* [*noncount*] : drops of water that form outside at night on grass, trees, etc. ▪ The grass was wet with the morning *dew*.

dew•drop /ˈduːˌdrɑːp, *Brit* ˈdjuːˌdrɒp/ *noun, pl* **-drops** [*count*] : a drop of dew

dew point *noun* [*count*] *technical* : the temperature at which the moisture in the air forms visible drops of water : the temperature at which dew forms ▪ It's 78° outside and the *dew point* is 63°.

dewy /ˈduːwi, *Brit* ˈdjuːwi/ *adj* : wet with dew or with something like dew ▪ a *dewy* meadow ▪ *dewy* eyes

dewy–eyed /ˈduːwiˌaɪd, *Brit* ˈdjuːwiˌaɪd/ *adj, usually disapproving*

1 : showing too much emotion ▪ the author's *dewy-eyed* [=*sentimental*] nostalgia ▪ He gets annoyed by people who get all *dewy-eyed* [=*teary-eyed*] at weddings.

2 : young and innocent ▪ a *dewy-eyed* adolescent

dex•ter•i•ty /dɛkˈsterəti/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 a : the ability to use your hands skillfully ▪ The job requires manual *dexterity*. ▪ He has the *dexterity* needed to deal cards quickly. **b** : the ability to easily move in a way that is graceful ▪ The amazing *dexterity* of the acrobat.

2 *formal* : clever skill : the ability to think and act quickly and cleverly ▪ He's a teacher known for his imagination and verbal *dexterity*. ▪ political *dexterity* [=*adroitness*]

dex•ter•ous *also* **dex•trous** /ˈdɛkstrəs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* : having or showing great skill or cleverness : showing dexterity ▪ They praised her *dexterous* handling of the crisis. ▪ The movie is a *dexterous* retelling of a classic love story. ▪ a *dexterous* maneuver ▪ a *dexterous* carpenter

– **dex•ter•ous•ly** *also* **dex•trous•ly** *adv* ▪ The various elements of the book have been *dexterously* combined.

dex•trose /ˈdɛkˌstroʊs/ *noun* [*noncount*] *technical* : a kind of sugar found in fruits, plants, etc. : a form of glucose

DH /ˌdiˈeɪʧ/ *noun, pl* **DHs** [*count*] *baseball* : DESIGNATED HITTER

dhow /ˈdaʊ/ *noun, pl* **dhows** [*count*] : an Arab boat that is low in the front, high in the back, and that usually has one or two sails that are shaped like triangles

di- *prefix, chemistry* : containing two atoms or groups of a specified kind ▪ carbon *di*oxide

di•a•be•tes /ˌdajəˈbiːtiz/ *noun* [*noncount*] *medical* : a serious disease in which the body cannot properly control the amount of sugar in your blood because it does not have enough insulin

[1]di•a•bet•ic /ˌdajəˈbɛtɪk/ *adj*

1 : affected with diabetes ▪ new drugs for treating *diabetic* patients ▪ He became *diabetic* [=he developed diabetes] in his old age.

2 : caused by diabetes ▪ a *diabetic* coma

3 : suitable for people with diabetes ▪ a *diabetic* diet

[2]diabetic *noun, pl* **-ics** [*count*] : a person who has diabetes

di•a•bol•i•cal /ˌdajəˈbɑːlɪk/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 *also* ***di•a•bol•ic*** : extremely evil ▪ a *diabolical* [=*fiendish, devilish*] enemy ✧ *Diabolical* often describes a plot, scheme, etc., that is very clever and that is intended for an evil purpose. ▪ a *diabolical* plot to overthrow the government

2 *Brit, informal* : very unpleasant, bad, or annoying ▪ The party was awful: the guests were boring and the food was *diabolical*. [=*awful, terrible*]

– **di•a•bol•i•cal•ly** /ˌdajəˈbɑːlɪkli/ *adv* ▪ a *diabolically* clever plan

di•a•crit•ic /ˌdajəˈkrɪtɪk/ *noun, pl* **-ics** [*count*] *technical* : a mark that is placed over, under, or through a letter in some languages to show that the letter should be pronounced in a particular way ▪ Two *diacritics* appear in the word "déjà vu."

di•a•dem /ˈdajəˌdɛm/ *noun, pl* **-dems** [*count*] *literary* : a crown that is worn especially by a king or queen as a symbol of royalty

di•ag•nose /ˈdajəgˌnoʊs/ *verb* **-nos•es**; **-nosed**; **-nos•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 a : to recognize (a disease, illness, etc.) by examining someone ▪ The test is used to help in *diagnosing* heart disease. ▪ Thousands of new cases have been *diagnosed* in the past year. ▪ The doctor was unable to *diagnose* the skin condition. — often + *as* ▪ The tumor was *diagnosed as* benign. ▪ Her illness was incorrectly *diagnosed as* a bacterial infection. **b :** to recognize a disease, illness, etc., in (someone) ▪ a new doctor with little experience *diagnosing* patients ▪ She was *diagnosed as* having cancer. = She was ***diagnosed with*** cancer. **2 :** to find the cause of (a problem) ▪ The mechanic was unable to *diagnose* the problem. — often + *as* ▪ The mechanic *diagnosed* the problem *as* a faulty spark plug.

di•ag•no•sis /ˌdajəgˈnoʊsəs/ *noun, pl* **-no•ses** /ˌdajəgˈnoʊˌsi:z/

1 [*noncount*] : the act of identifying a disease, illness, or problem by examining someone or something ▪ The unusual combination of symptoms made accurate *diagnosis* difficult. ▪ She is an expert in the *diagnosis* and treatment of eye diseases.

2 [*count*] : a statement or conclusion that describes the reason for a disease, illness, or problem ▪ The *diagnosis* was a mild concussion. ▪ His doctor made an initial *diagnosis* of pneumonia. ▪ The committee published its *diagnosis* of the problems affecting urban schools. — compare PROGNOSIS

di•ag•nos•tic /ˌdajəgˈnɑ:stɪk/ *adj, technical* : of, relating to, or used in diagnosis : used to help identify a disease, illness, or problem ▪ *diagnostic* tests for cancer ▪ Ultrasound is now widely used as a *diagnostic* tool. ▪ One important *diagnostic* feature of this condition is a mild rash.

di•ag•nos•tics /ˌdajəgˈnɑ:stɪks/ *noun* [*plural*] *technical* : the skill or practice of identifying illnesses or problems : methods used for diagnosis ▪ This technology could revolutionize medical *diagnostics*. ▪ automotive *diagnostics*

[1]di•ag•o•nal /daɪˈægənl/ *adj*

1 *of a straight line* : joining two opposite corners of a shape (such as a square or rectangle) especially by crossing the center point of the shape ▪ Draw a *diagonal* line. — compare HORIZONTAL, VERTICAL

2 : not going straight across or up and down ▪ The blanket is covered with *diagonal* stripes. ▪ a *diagonal* pattern

– **di•ag•o•nal•ly** *adv* ▪ *diagonally* striped ▪ The stone wall runs *diagonally* across the field.

[2]diagonal *noun, pl* **-nals** [*count*] : a diagonal line, direction, or pattern ▪ a design with strong *diagonals* ▪ The stone wall cuts across the field ***on a diagonal*** [=*diagonally*] ▪ Slice the vegetables ***on the diagonal*** [=*diagonally*]

[1]di•a•gram /ˈdajəˌgræm/ *noun, pl* **-grams** [*count*] : a drawing that explains or shows the parts of something ▪ a *diagram* of the nervous system ▪ This *diagram* shows how the clock operates.

– **di•a•gram•mat•ic** /ˌdajəgrəˈmætɪk/ *adj* ▪ a *diagrammatic* representation of the nervous system – **di•a•gram•mat•i•cal•ly** /ˌdajəgrəˈmætɪkli/ *adv*

[2]diagram *verb* **-grams**; **-grammed** *or* **-gramed**; **-gramming** *or* **-gram•ing** [+ *obj*] *US* : to show or explain (something) in a diagram ▪ The coach *diagrammed* the new play on the blackboard. ▪ The students were required to *diagram* a sentence.

[1]di•al /ˈdajəl/ *noun, pl* **di•als** [*count*]

1 a : the part of a clock or watch that has the numbers on it ▪ a clock with a shiny silver *dial* [=*face*] — see also SUNDIAL **b :** the part of a piece of equipment that shows the measurement of something with a moving piece (such as a needle) that points to a number ▪ the *dial* of a pressure gauge

2 : a round part on a piece of equipment that you turn to operate something: such as **a :** a round control on a radio or television that you use to select a station or channel or to make the volume louder or quieter ▪ I had to keep adjusting the radio *dial* to make the station come in clearly. ▪ We'll be back right after this commercial, so ***don't touch that dial*** [=don't change the channel/station] **b :** a round part of some telephones that you move to select numbers

[2]dial *verb* **di•als**; *US* **di•aled** *or Brit* **di•alled**; *US* **di•al•ing** *or Brit* **di•al•ling** [+ *obj*]

1 : to select (a series of numbers) on a telephone by turning a dial or pushing buttons ▪ In an emergency you should *dial* [=*call*] 911. ▪ I'm sorry. I must have *dialed* the wrong number.

2 : to make a telephone call to (a person, business, etc.) ▪ She *dialed* [=(more commonly) *called*] her office as soon as she got home. ▪ He *dialed* (up) a friend to say he was in town.

di•a•lect /ˈdajəˌlɛkt/ *noun, pl* **-lects** : a form of a language that is spoken in a particular area and that uses some of its own words, grammar, and pronunciations [*count*] They speak a southern *dialect* of French. ▪ peasant/regional/local *dialects* [*noncount*] The author uses *dialect* in his writing. ▪ The play was hard to understand when the characters spoke ***in dialect***

– **di•a•lec•tal** /ˌdajəˈlɛktl/ *adj* ▪ the many *dialectal* forms of English

di•a•lec•tic /ˌdajəˈlɛktɪk/ *also* **di•a•lec•tics** /ˌdajəˈlɛktɪks/ *noun* [*noncount*] *philosophy* : a method of examining and discussing opposing ideas in order to find the truth

– **di•a•lec•ti•cal** /ˌdajəˈlɛktɪkəl/ *adj* ▪ a *dialectical* method/philosophy

dialling code *noun, pl* ~ **codes** [*count*] *Brit* : AREA CODE

dialling tone *noun, pl* ~ **tones** [*count*] *Brit* : DIAL TONE

dialog box *noun, pl* ~ **boxes** [*count*] *computers* : a box that appears on a computer screen with a question inside asking the user to make a choice or give information

di•a•logue *also US* **di•a•log** /ˈdajəˌlɑ:g/ *noun, pl* **-logues** *also* **-logs**

1 : the things that are said by the characters in a story, movie, play, etc. [*noncount*] He is an expert at writing *dialogue*. ▪ There's very little *dialogue* in the film. ▪ The best part of the book is the clever *dialogue*. [*count*] Students were asked to read *dialogues* from the play.

2 *formal* **a :** a discussion or series of discussions that two groups or countries have in order to end a disagreement [*count*] The two sides involved in the labor dispute are trying to establish a *dialogue*. [*noncount*] The two parties have been in constant *dialogue* with each other. **b** [*count*] : a conversation between two or more people ▪ They had a lengthy *dialogue* [=(more commonly) *talk*] about her plans for college.

dial tone *noun, pl* ~ **tones** [*count*] *US* : the sound that comes from a telephone when it is ready for a call to be made — called also (*Brit*) *dialling tone*

dial–up /ˈdajəlˌʌp/ *adj, always used before a noun, computers* : done using an ordinary telephone line ▪ *dial-up* Internet access ▪ a *dial-up* connection

di•al•y•sis /daɪˈæləsəs/ *noun* [*noncount*] *medical* : the process of removing some of a person's blood, cleaning it, and then returning it to the person's body ▪ patients undergoing/receiving *dialysis* ▪ a *dialysis* machine ✧ People usually receive dialysis when they have damaged kidneys.

di•am•e•ter /daɪˈæmətɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ters**

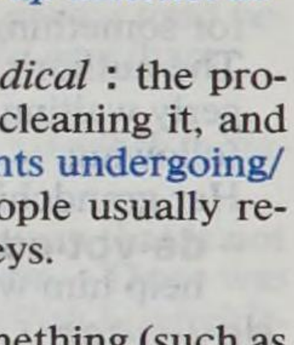
1 [*count*] : a straight line from one side of something (such as a circle) to the other side that passes through the center point ▪ The dotted line indicates the *diameter* of the circle. — see picture at GEOMETRY

2 : the distance through the center of something from one side to the other [*count*] What is the *diameter* of the tree trunk? ▪ a pipe with a *diameter* of two inches = a pipe with a two-inch *diameter* [*noncount*] Dig a hole that's two feet deep and three feet ***in diameter***. — compare RADIUS

di•a•met•ri•cal•ly /ˌdajəˈmɛtrɪkli/ *adv* : completely or entirely ▪ His position on the issue is ***diametrically opposed to*** that of his partner. [=his position is the exact opposite of his partner's position] ▪ They grew up in ***diametrically opposite*** [=completely different] environments.

[1]di•a•mond /ˈdaɪmənd/ *noun, pl* **-monds**

1 : a very hard usually colorless stone that is a form of carbon and is used especially in jewelry [*count*] a necklace studded with *diamonds* and rubies ▪ Her husband gave her a *diamond* [=a diamond ring] for her birthday. [*noncount*] The ruby was surrounded by a ring of *diamond*. — often used before another noun ▪ a *diamond* mine/ring — see color picture on page C11



diamond

2 [*count*] : a shape that is formed by four equal straight lines and that has two opposite angles that are smaller than a right angle and two opposite angles that are larger than a right angle ▪ The children cut the fabric into *diamonds*. — compare SQUARE

3 a [*count*] : a playing card that is marked with a red diamond shape ▪ one heart, two *diamonds*, and two clubs — see picture at PLAYING CARD **b** ***diamonds*** [*plural*] : the suit in a deck of playing cards that is marked by red diamond shapes ▪ He played the queen of *diamonds*. — compare CLUB, HEART, SPADE

4 [*count*] **a :** the part of a baseball field that includes the area within and around the three bases and home plate : IN-

FIELD • The infielders warmed up by throwing the ball around the *diamond*. **b** : the entire playing field in baseball • It's sad to see the town's old baseball *diamond* deserted.

[2]diamond *adj, always used before a noun* : of or relating to the 60th or 75th anniversary of an important event (such as a marriage) • The couple celebrated their ***diamond (wedding) anniversary*** a few months ago. = (*Brit*) They celebrated their ***diamond wedding***. • the celebration of Queen Victoria's ***diamond jubilee*** in 1897 ✧ It is more common for *diamond* to refer to the 60th anniversary of something. — compare GOLDEN, SILVER

diamond in the rough *noun, pl* **diamonds in the rough** [*count*] *US*
1 : a person who has talent or other good qualities but who is not polite, educated, socially skilled, etc. — called also (*Brit*) *rough diamond*
2 : something that is in poor condition but that is likely to become valuable with appropriate care or attention • The house is a *diamond in the rough*, and with some hard work it will be really beautiful.

[1]di•a•per /ˈdaɪpɚ/ *noun, pl* **-pers** [*count*] *US* : a piece of cloth or other material that is placed between a baby's legs and fastened around the waist to hold body waste • disposable *diapers* • changing a baby's *diaper* — called also (*Brit*) *nappy*

[2]diaper *verb* **-pers**; **-pered**; **-per•ing** [+ *obj*] *US* : to put a diaper on (someone) • *diaper* a baby

diaper rash *noun* [*noncount*] *US* : sore red spots that sometimes form on the area of a baby's skin that a diaper covers — called also (*Brit*) *nappy rash*

di•aph•a•nous /daɪˈæfənəs/ *adj, formal* — used to describe cloth that is very thin and light • a *diaphanous* scarf • *diaphanous* fabrics

di•a•phragm /ˈdajəˌfræm/ *noun, pl* **-phragms** [*count*]
1 *medical* : a large flat muscle that separates the lungs from the stomach area and that is used in breathing — see picture at HUMAN
2 *technical* : a device that controls the amount of light passing through the lens of a camera
3 : a device shaped like a cup that is placed in the vagina to prevent pregnancy — called also (*Brit*) *cap*
4 *technical* : a thin disk that is used in microphones, telephones, speakers, etc., to help reproduce sound or make sounds louder

di•a•rist /ˈdajərəst/ *noun, pl* **-rists** [*count*] : a person who writes a diary

di•ar•rhea (*US*) *or chiefly Brit* **di•ar•rhoea** /ˌdajəˈriːjə/ *noun* [*noncount*] *medical* : an illness that causes you to pass waste from your body very frequently and in liquid rather than solid form • The symptoms of the disease include fever, nausea, and *diarrhea*.

di•a•ry /ˈdajəri/ *noun, pl* **-ries** [*count*]
1 : a book in which you write down your personal experiences and thoughts each day • His *diaries* [=*journals*] were published after his death. • She ***kept a diary*** [=wrote regularly in her diary] while she was traveling in Europe.
2 *Brit* : DATEBOOK

di•as•po•ra *or* **Di•as•po•ra** /daɪˈæspərə/ *noun, pl* **-ras** [*count*] *formal* : a group of people who live outside the area in which they had lived for a long time or in which their ancestors lived — usually singular • the art of the African/Chinese *diaspora* • members of ***the Diaspora*** [=Jewish people throughout the world who do not live in Israel]

dia•ton•ic /ˌdajəˈtɑːnɪk/ *adj, music* : of or relating to a musical scale that has five whole steps and two semitones • *diatonic* harmonies/notes • the *diatonic* scale — compare CHROMATIC

di•a•tribe /ˈdajəˌtraɪb/ *noun, pl* **-tribes** [*count*] *formal* : an angry and usually long speech or piece of writing that strongly criticizes someone or something • The article is a *diatribe* against mainstream media. • a bitter *diatribe* about/on how unfair the tax system is

dibs /ˈdɪbz/ *noun* [*plural*] *US, informal* : the right to have or choose something — usually + *on* • We stood in line for hours to ***get/have dibs on*** the best seats in the theater. • The farm always ***gives first dibs on*** its vegetables to local families. [=the farm sells its vegetables to local families before anyone else] • "***Dibs on*** the front seat!" [=I am claiming the front seat for myself]

[1]dice /ˈdaɪs/ *noun, pl* **dice**
1 [*count*] : a small cube that is made of plastic, wood, etc., that has one to six dots on each side, and that is used usually in pairs in various games • a pair of *dice* • Throw the *dice*. • In this game, each player rolls the *dice* to see who plays first. • He was caught using a pair of ***loaded dice***. [=dice used for cheating]


dice

2 [*noncount*] : a gambling game played with dice • They were ***shooting dice*** in one of the bar's back rooms.
3 [*count*] : a small cube • Chop the onions into ¼-inch *dice*.
a roll of the dice *informal* — used to say that something could have either a good result or a bad result • Opening a new restaurant is always *a roll of the dice*. • It's *a roll of the dice* whether we succeed or fail.
load the dice *informal* : to unfairly make one possible result more likely than another • We received information that would *load the dice* in favor of our arguments. • The *dice were loaded* against them but they still managed to win.
no dice *US, informal* — used to say that something hoped for or wanted was not possible to do or to get • We hoped that tickets would still be available, but *no dice*, they were all sold. • I've proposed several different deals, but their response continues to be *no dice*. [=their response continues to be no]
roll the dice *informal* : to do something that may have a good result or a bad result : to take a chance • They decided to *roll the dice* and start their own business.

[2]dice *verb* **dic•es**; **diced**; **dic•ing** [+ *obj*] : to cut (food) into small cubes • *Dice* the potatoes and add them to the soup.
slice and dice see [2]SLICE
– **diced** *adj* • *diced* carrots – **dic•er** *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

dic•ey /ˈdaɪsi/ *adj* **dic•i•er**; **-est** *informal* : involving a chance that something bad or unpleasant could happen : RISKY • Starting a business can be quite a *dicey* proposition. • The weather looks a little *dicey* this morning. I hope it doesn't rain.

di•chot•o•my /daɪˈkɑːtəmi/ *noun, pl* **-mies** [*count*] *formal* : a difference between two opposite things : a division into two opposite groups • Her essay discusses the *dichotomy* between good and evil in the author's novels.

dick /ˈdɪk/ *noun, pl* **dicks** [*count*]
1 *informal + offensive* : PENIS
2 *informal + offensive* : a mean, stupid, or annoying man
3 *US, informal + old-fashioned* : DETECTIVE • a private *dick* — see also CLEVER DICK

dick•ens /ˈdɪkənz/ *noun*
the dickens *informal + old-fashioned* — used to make a statement or question more forceful • What *the dickens* [=*the devil*] do you mean? • We'll have to work ***like the dickens*** [=very hard] to finish this project. • (*US*) It ***scared/frightened the dickens*** out of people. [=scared people very badly] • (*US*) She's as ***cute as the dickens***. [=she's very cute]

dick•er /ˈdɪkɚ/ *verb* **-ers**; **-ered**; **-er•ing** [*no obj*] *chiefly US* : to talk or argue with someone about the conditions of a purchase, agreement, or contract • I tried to *dicker* for a discounted price. — often + *with* or *over* • I don't have time to *dicker with* you. • They spent hours *dickering* [=*haggling*] *over* the car's price.

dick•head /ˈdɪkˌhɛd/ *noun, pl* **-heads** [*count*] *informal + offensive* : a mean, stupid, or annoying man

dicta *plural of* DICTUM

Dic•ta•phone /ˈdɪktəˌfoʊn/ *trademark* — used for a machine that records a person's spoken words so that the words can be written down later

[1]dic•tate /ˈdɪkˌteɪt/ *verb* **-tates**; **-tat•ed**; **-tat•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to speak or read (something) to a person who writes it down or to a machine that records it • She's *dictating* a letter to her secretary.
2 : to say or state (something) with authority or power • They insisted on being able to *dictate* the terms of surrender.
3 : to make (something) necessary • Our choice of activities will likely be *dictated* [=*determined*, *controlled*] by the weather. • His health *dictates* [=*requires*] that he work at home. • Tradition *dictates* that the youngest member should go first. • The basket's function *dictates* its size and shape.
dictate to [*phrasal verb*] ***dictate to (someone)*** : to give orders to (someone) — usually used as *(be) dictated to* • I resent *being dictated to* by someone with half my experience.

[2]dictate *noun, pl* **-tates** [*count*] *formal*
1 : an order or direction given with authority — usually plural • They don't allow any disagreement with the *dictates* of the party.
2 : a rule or principle that guides something (such as an ac-

tivity or a person's behavior) — usually plural ▪ She tried to live her life according to the *dictates* of her conscience. ▪ We pay no attention to the *dictates* of fashion. ▪ the *dictates* of common sense

dic•ta•tion /dɪk'teɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the act of speaking words that someone writes down or that a machine records : the act of dictating words ▪ He used a tape recorder for *dictation*. ▪ writing from *dictation*

take dictation : to write down the words that someone says so that they can be used in a letter, report, etc. ▪ Her secretary's very good at *taking dictation*.

dic•ta•tor /'dɪkˌteɪtɚ/ *noun, pl* **-tors** [*count*] : a person who rules a country with total authority and often in a cruel or brutal way ▪ The country was ruled by a military *dictator*. ▪ fascist *dictators*

dic•ta•to•ri•al /ˌdɪktə'torijəl/ *adj*

1 : of, relating to, or ruled by a dictator ▪ a *dictatorial* ruler [=a ruler who is a dictator] ▪ He was given *dictatorial* powers. ▪ a *dictatorial* government ▪ *dictatorial* regimes

2 [*more ~; most ~*] *disapproving* — used to describe a person who tries to control other people in a forceful and unfair way ▪ a *dictatorial* boss [=a boss who acts like a dictator] ▪ All his students resented his harsh, *dictatorial* manner.

– dic•ta•to•ri•al•ly *adv* ▪ behaving *dictatorially*

dic•ta•tor•ship /dɪk'teitəˌʃɪp/ *noun, pl* **-ships**

1 [*noncount*] : rule by a dictator : rule, control, or leadership by one person with total power ▪ The country suffered for many years under his *dictatorship*.

2 [*count*] : a government or country in which total power is held by a dictator or a small group ▪ His enemies accused him of establishing a *dictatorship*. ▪ a military *dictatorship*

dic•tion /'dɪkʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 : the clearness of a person's speech ▪ The actor's *diction* was so poor I could hardly understand what he was saying.

2 : the way in which words are used in speech or writing ▪ The student's essay was full of careless *diction*.

dic•tio•nary /'dɪkʃəˌneri, *Brit* 'dɪkʃənri/ *noun, pl* **-nar•ies** [*count*]

1 : a reference book that contains words listed in alphabetical order and that gives information about the words' meanings, forms, pronunciations, etc. ▪ an English *dictionary* ▪ Look it up in the *dictionary*.

2 : a reference book that lists in alphabetical order the words of one language and shows their meanings or translations in a different language ▪ an English-French *dictionary*

3 : a reference book that lists in alphabetical order words that relate to a particular subject along with their definitions and uses ▪ a law *dictionary* ▪ a *dictionary* of medicine

dic•tum /'dɪktəm/ *noun, pl* **dic•ta** /'dɪktə/ *also* **dic•tums** [*count*] *formal* : a statement or well-known remark that expresses an important idea or rule ▪ A doctor must follow the *dictum* of "First, do no harm."

did *past tense of* DO

di•dac•tic /daɪ'dæktɪk/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *formal*

1 : designed or intended to teach people something ▪ *didactic* poetry

2 *usually disapproving* — used to describe someone or something that tries to teach something (such as proper or moral behavior) in a way that is annoying or unwanted ▪ Audiences were turned off by the movie's *didactic* quality.

– di•dac•ti•cal•ly /daɪ'dæktɪkli/ *adv*

did•dle /'dɪdl̩/ *verb* **did•dles**; **did•dled**; **did•dling** *informal*

1 [*no obj*] *US* : to spend time doing something or handling something in an aimless way ▪ He spent hours *diddling* [=*fiddling*] *with* the car's engine.

2 [+ *obj*] *Brit* : to steal money from (someone) by cheating ▪ He had tried to *diddle* his insurance agency. ▪ She felt she had been *diddled* out of her inheritance.

did•dly /'dɪdl̩i/ *noun* [*noncount*] *US slang* : DIDDLY-SQUAT ▪ Her contributions don't amount to *diddly*. [=*anything*] ▪ He helped us a lot, but she didn't do *diddly*.

did•dly–squat /'dɪdl̩iˌskwɑ:t/ *noun* [*noncount*] *US slang* : the least amount : anything at all ▪ You don't know *diddly-squat* about sports. ▪ He loved his job even though it didn't pay *diddly-squat*.

didn't /'dɪdn̩t/ — used as a contraction of *did not* ▪ I *didn't* know you were coming.

[1]die /'daɪ/ *verb* **dies**; **died**; **dy•ing** /'dajɪŋ/

1 a [*no obj*] : to stop living ▪ She claims she's not afraid to *die*. ▪ More than a hundred people *died* [=were killed] in the crash. ▪ He *died* in 1892 at the age of 37. ▪ His mother *died* [=*passed away, passed on*] on April 15. ▪ People in the town began *dying* suddenly/unexpectedly. ▪ He ***died in his sleep***. [=he died while he was sleeping] ▪ She ***died in childbirth***. [=she *died* while giving birth to a baby] **b** [*no obj*] : to end life in a specified state or condition — followed by an adjective, noun, or noun phrase ▪ He *died* happy. ▪ They both *died* young. ▪ She *died* a hero. ▪ One day, you're going to *die* a lonely and bitter old man. **c** [+ *obj*] : to have or suffer (a specified kind of death) ▪ He *died* a violent and painful death. ▪ *dying* a natural death

2 [*no obj*] : to wish strongly or desperately *for* something or *to do* something — used as *(be) dying* ▪ *I'm dying for* a cold drink. ▪ They *were dying to leave*. ▪ We've *been dying to see* that movie.

3 [*no obj*] **a** : to pass out of existence : to come to an end ▪ Her secret *died* with her. ▪ He's the last of a *dying* breed. **b** : to disappear gradually or become less strong ▪ The wind gradually *died*. [=*died away, died down*]

4 [*no obj*] **a** : to stop working or running ▪ The motor *died*. **b** : to end in failure ▪ The bill ***died in committee***. [=the bill was considered and rejected by a committee]

die away [*phrasal verb*] : to disappear gradually or become less strong ▪ The echo slowly *died away*.

die back [*phrasal verb*] *of a plant* : to die in the parts that are above the ground but to remain alive in the roots ▪ The plant *dies back* every winter and sends up new shoots each spring.

die down [*phrasal verb*] : to gradually become less strong ▪ The wind will *die down* in the evening. ▪ She waited for the noise to *die down* before she started singing.

die hard : to take a long time to die or end : to continue for a long time ▪ Such rumors *die hard*. ▪ That kind of determination *dies hard*. — see also DIE-HARD

die in bed *or* ***die in your bed*** : to die of disease or old age ▪ After a long and adventurous life, he ended up *dying in his bed*.

die laughing *informal* : to laugh for a long time in an uncontrollable way : to laugh very hard ▪ If the guys hear about this, they're going to *die laughing*.

die of [*phrasal verb*] ***die of (something)*** : to die because of (something) ▪ My uncle *died of* cancer. ▪ She *died of* old age. ▪ They say that he *died of* a broken heart. ▪ I almost *died of* embarrassment. [=I was extremely embarrassed] ✧ People often say that they are ***dying of*** something that causes a lot of discomfort, distress, etc. ▪ Would you like some water? You must be *dying of* thirst. [=you must be very thirsty] ▪ We're all *dying of* the heat. [=we're all very hot and uncomfortable]

die off [*phrasal verb*] : to die one after another so that fewer and fewer are left ▪ The remaining members of her family gradually *died off*. ▪ The animals *died off* one by one.

die on the vine *informal* : to fail at an early stage because of a lack of support or enthusiasm ▪ Her plan to run for public office *died on the vine*.

die out [*phrasal verb*] : to disappear gradually ▪ Like most fads, this one eventually *died out*. ▪ The disease gradually *died out* over the last two generations. ▪ Many more species are expected to *die out* completely [=to become extinct] unless we do something to help.

never say die — used to encourage someone to continue something or to remain hopeful ▪ It doesn't look good for the team, but *never say die*. [=but don't give up hope] They could pull off a miracle.

to die for *informal* : worth dying for : extremely desirable or appealing ▪ Dinner was nothing special, but the dessert was *to die for*. ▪ The apartment has a view *to die for*. [=has a great view]

[2]die /'daɪ/ *noun* [*count*]

1 *pl* ***dice*** /'daɪs/ : [1]DICE 1 ▪ Each player throws/rolls one *die*.

2 *pl* ***dies*** /'daɪz/ : a tool that is used for cutting, shaping, or stamping a material or an object

the die is cast — used to say that a process or course of action has been started and that it cannot be stopped or changed ▪ Once we signed the contract, *the die was cast*, and there was no turning back.

die–hard /'daɪˌhɑɚd/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : very determined or loyal ▪ *die-hard* fans; *especially* : very loyal to a set of beliefs and not willing to change those beliefs ▪ a *die-hard* conservative — see also *die hard* at [1]DIE

– die•hard *noun, pl* **-hards** [*count*] ▪ a bunch of conservative *diehards*

diem see PER DIEM

die•sel /'di:zəl/ *noun, pl* **-sels**

1 [*count*] : a vehicle (such as a truck or bus) that has a diesel engine ▪ His truck's a *diesel*.
2 [*noncount*] : DIESEL FUEL ▪ Does your car take *diesel* or gasoline?

diesel engine *noun, pl* ~ **-gines** [*count*] : a type of engine that uses diesel fuel rather than gasoline and that is used especially in large vehicles (such as trucks and buses)

diesel fuel *noun* [*noncount*] : a type of fuel that is used in vehicles with diesel engines

[1]di•et /ˈdajət/ *noun, pl* **-ets**
1 : the food that a person or animal usually eats [*count*] *Diets* that are rich in fruits and vegetables have been shown to help prevent disease. ▪ a balanced *diet* — often + *of* ▪ Many birds live on a *diet of* insects. [*noncount*] studying the association between *diet* and disease
2 : the kind and amount of food that a person eats for a certain reason (such as to improve health or to lose weight) [*noncount*] She lost a lot of weight through *diet* and exercise. [*count*] a low-fat *diet* ▪ a liquid *diet* ▪ He's ***on a diet***. [=he is eating less food or only particular kinds of food in order to lose weight] ▪ He ***went on a diet*** and lost 30 pounds in six months.
3 [*singular*] : something that is provided or experienced repeatedly — + *of* ▪ We've been given a steady *diet of* political scandals in recent months.

[2]diet *verb* **-ets**; **-et•ed**; **-et•ing** [*no obj*] : to eat less food or to eat only particular kinds of food in order to lose weight : to be on a diet ▪ I've been *dieting* for two months.

[3]diet *adj, always used before a noun*
1 : having a smaller number of calories than usual ▪ a *diet* soda
2 : intended to help people lose weight ▪ *diet* pills

di•e•tary /ˈdajəˌteri, *Brit* ˈdajətri/ *adj, always used before a noun* : of or relating to a diet ▪ Many of our patients have special *dietary* needs. ▪ *dietary* deficiencies

di•et•er /ˈdajətə/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a person who is trying to lose weight : a person who is dieting ▪ I've been an unsuccessful *dieter* for years. ▪ chronic *dieters* — called also (*Brit*) *slimmer*

di•eti•tian *or* **di•eti•cian** /ˌdajəˈtɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tians** *or* **-cians** [*count*] : a person whose job is to give people advice about what to eat in order to be healthy

dif•fer /ˈdɪfə/ *verb* **-fers**; **-fered**; **-fer•ing** [*no obj*]
1 : to be different ▪ Their styles *differ*. ▪ The two schools *differ* in their approach to discipline. — often + *from* ▪ The new version *differs* significantly *from* the old one.
2 : to have opinions that don't agree ▪ We *differ* [=*disagree*] on/about/over how best to raise the money. — often + *with* ▪ They *differed with* each other on religious matters.
agree to differ see AGREE
beg to differ see BEG
– **differing** *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ The students had widely *differing* [=*different*] interpretations of the poem. ▪ *differing* views

dif•fer•ence /ˈdɪfrəns/ *noun, pl* **-enc•es**
1 : the quality that makes one person or thing unlike another [*noncount*] She knows the *difference* between right and wrong. ▪ There's no *difference* between the two houses. They look exactly the same. [*singular*] There's a striking *difference* in the sisters' looks. [=they look very different from each other] ✧ To ***tell the difference*** between two people or things is to see how they are unlike each other. ▪ It's hard to *tell the difference* [=*distinguish*] between one action movie and another. ▪ The new version is supposed to be much better than the old one, but I can't *tell the difference* (between them).
2 [*count*] : something that people do not agree about : a disagreement in opinion ▪ They've always ***had their differences***. [=they have always disagreed about some things] ▪ The debate gave them a chance to ***air their differences***. [=to discuss the things that they disagree about] ▪ We need to find a way to ***resolve/settle our differences***. [=to stop disagreeing, arguing, etc.] ▪ There seems to be ***a difference of opinion*** [=people disagree] about what we should do next. ▪ They divorced because of ***irreconcilable differences***. [=serious disagreements that they were not able to settle]
3 [*count*] : the degree or amount by which things differ ▪ There's a big *difference* in price. ▪ There's a 15-year ***age difference*** between her oldest and youngest children. [=her oldest child is fifteen years older than her youngest child]
make a difference **1** : to cause a change : to be important in some way ▪ Cost can *make a difference* in deciding on a college. ▪ "When would you like to leave?" "It ***makes no difference*** (to me)." [=it doesn't matter to me; I don't care] ▪ The weather ***didn't make any difference*** in our plans. [=didn't change our plans] ▪ It would ***make a lot of difference*** if you came. ▪ Your help ***made a big difference***. ▪ ***It makes very little difference***. [=it matters very little] ▪ The size of the engine can ***make all the difference***. [=can be very important; can matter most] ▪ It may not matter to you, but it ***makes all the difference in the world*** to me. = It ***makes a world of difference*** to me. [=it matters very much to me] **2** : to do something that is important : to do something that helps people or makes the world a better place ▪ She says that she got into politics because she wanted to *make a difference*.
same difference *chiefly US, informal* — used to say that two things are not really different in any important way ▪ "They lost 100 games last year." "Actually, they only lost 96 games." "*Same difference*. The point is, they were awful."
split the difference see [1]SPLIT
what's the difference? **1** — used to ask how one thing is different from another ▪ "I like this one a lot more than that one." "Why? *What's the difference* (between them)?" **2** *or* ***what difference does it/that make?*** — used to ask why something is important or to suggest that something is not important ▪ *What's the difference* whether I go or not? ▪ *What difference does it make* [=what does it matter] if I go with you?

dif•fer•ent /ˈdɪfrənt/ *adj*
1 [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not of the same kind : partly or totally unlike ▪ The two brothers could not have been more *different*. ▪ The students come from (very) *different* backgrounds. ▪ We need to try an entirely *different* approach. — often + *from, than*, or *to* ▪ Our house is *different from* the others on our street. ▪ (*US*) The movie was *different than* I expected. ▪ (*Brit*) Her dress is *different to* mine.

> ***usage*** In both U.S. English and British English, one person or thing is said to be *different from* another. *Different* is also often followed by *than* in U.S. English. Some people believe that *different than* is incorrect, but it is very common. In British English, *different* can be followed by *to*. *Different to* is not used in U.S. English. ▪ The old house looks *different from* what I remember. = (*Brit*) The old house looks *different to* what I remember. = (*US*) The old house looks *different than* I remember.

2 *always used before a noun* : not the same ▪ They met with each other on several *different* occasions.
3 [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not ordinary or common : UNUSUAL ▪ advertising that tries to be *different* ▪ That movie certainly was *different*. ▪ He has a very *different* style of dressing.
a horse of a different color see [1]HORSE
different drummer see DRUMMER
put a different complexion on see COMPLEXION
– **dif•fer•ent•ly** *adv* ▪ She sees the situation a little *differently*. ▪ He dresses *differently* now that he's out of college.

[1]dif•fer•en•tial /ˌdɪfəˈrɛnʃəl/ *adj, always used before a noun* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* : relating to or based on a difference : treating some people or groups differently from others ▪ The law is intended to prevent *differential* [=*discriminatory*] treatment of women in the workplace.
– **dif•fer•en•tial•ly** *adv*

[2]differential *noun, pl* **-tials** [*count*]
1 : a difference between people or things ▪ Although there is a small price *differential* [=a small difference in price], we believe it's worth buying the computer with a faster processor.
2 *technical* : a gear or an arrangement of gears in a vehicle that allows one wheel to turn faster than another when the vehicle is going around a curve — called also *differential gear*; see picture at CAR

dif•fer•en•ti•ate /ˌdɪfəˈrɛnʃiˌeɪt/ *verb* **-ates**; **-at•ed**; **-at•ing**
1 [+ *obj*] : to make (someone or something) different in some way ▪ The only thing that *differentiates* the twins is the color of their eyes. — often + *from* ▪ Our excellent customer service *differentiates* us *from* our competitors.
2 : to see or state the difference or differences between two or more things [*no obj*] — often + *between* ▪ We've been learning how to *differentiate between* different types of plants. [+ *obj*] — often + *from* ▪ It's sometimes hard to *differentiate* one action movie *from* all the others.
– **dif•fer•en•ti•a•tion** /ˌdɪfəˌrɛnʃiˈeɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*]

dif•fi•cult /ˈdɪfɪkəlt/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : not easy : requiring much work or skill to do or make ▪

Our last test was extremely *difficult*. [=*hard*, *tough*] • We were asked lots of *difficult* questions. • I had to make a very *difficult* decision/choice. • We'll be hiking over *difficult* terrain. • It's more *difficult* than it sounds. — often followed by *to* + *verb* • It's *difficult to imagine* why she would do that. — often + *for* • It is *difficult for* me *to say* this, but you have to leave. • She has a cold, which **makes it difficult** *for* her *to breathe*.

2 : not easy to deal with or manage • He gave a good performance under *difficult* [=*trying*] circumstances. • I found myself in a *difficult* position/situation. • Some *difficult* days lie ahead of us. • He's been having a *difficult* time coping [=he has not been dealing well] with his father's death. • These changes will **make life/things difficult** for everyone involved.

3 : not willing to help others by changing your behavior : stubborn or unreasonable • My parents tell me that I was a *difficult* child. [=I did not obey my parents] • Why do you have to be so *difficult*? [=*uncooperative*]

dif•fi•cul•ty /ˈdɪfɪkəlti/ *noun, pl* **-ties**

1 [*noncount*] : the quality of something that makes it hard to do : the difficult nature of something • He has *difficulty* [=*trouble*] reading without his glasses. [=it is difficult for him to read without his glasses] • She underestimated the *difficulty* of saving so much money. • They had some *difficulty* (in) explaining their behavior. ✧ If something can be done **with difficulty**, it is difficult to do. • It was only *with* (great/considerable) *difficulty* that we were able to continue. ✧ To do something **without difficulty** is to do it easily or without problems. • I couldn't breathe *without difficulty*.

2 [*count*] : something that is not easy to do or to deal with : a difficult situation — usually plural • He had to overcome many *difficulties*. [=*hardships*] • Since the election, the country has been facing serious economic/financial *difficulties*. • This television station is currently experiencing **technical difficulties**. [=having technical problems]

3 [*count*] : a disagreement in opinion — usually plural • The partners have been unable to iron out their *difficulties*. = They haven't been able to resolve their *difficulties*.

dif•fi•dent /ˈdɪfɪdənt/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : lacking confidence : not feeling comfortable around people • He becomes *diffident* [=*shy*, *timid*] around girls.

2 : very careful about acting or speaking • She has a *diffident* [=*reserved*] manner. • She was *diffident* about stating her opinion.

– **dif•fi•dence** /ˈdɪfədəns/ *noun* [*noncount*] – **dif•fi•dent•ly** *adv* • He asked *diffidently* about her family.

dif•fract /dɪˈfrækt/ *verb* **-fracts**; **-fract•ed**; **-fract•ing** [+ *obj*] *technical* : to cause (a beam of light) to bend or spread • Light is *diffracted* when it passes through a prism.

– **dif•frac•tion** /dɪˈfrækʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] • a light undergoing *diffraction*

[1]dif•fuse /dɪˈfjuːs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : spread out over a large space : not concentrated in one area • The forest was filled with a soft, *diffuse* light. • *diffuse* pain

– **dif•fuse•ly** *adv* • The pain spread *diffusely* through his legs. – **dif•fuse•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

[2]dif•fuse /dɪˈfjuːz/ *verb* **-fus•es**; **-fused**; **-fus•ing**

1 a : to spread out : to move freely throughout a large area [*no obj*] The heat from the radiator *diffuses* throughout the room. [+ *obj*] The heat was *diffused* throughout the room. **b** : to exist or be known throughout an area [*no obj*] Their culture gradually *diffused* [=*spread*] westward. [+ *obj*] *diffusing* their ideas

2 [+ *obj*] : to cause (light) to be soft and spread out • The photographer uses a screen to *diffuse* the light. • an area of *diffused* light

– **dif•fu•sion** /dɪˈfjuːʒən/ *noun* [*noncount*]

[1]dig /ˈdɪg/ *verb* **digs**; **dug** /ˈdʌg/; **dig•ging**

1 a [*no obj*] : to move soil, sand, snow, etc., in order to create a hole • Some animal has been *digging* in the garden. • They *dug* into the sand with their hands. • He **dug down** about 10 feet before he hit water. **b** [+ *obj*] : to form (a hole, tunnel, etc.) by removing soil, sand, snow, etc. • *Dig* a hole three feet deep. • The first step in building a house is to *dig* the foundation. • The prisoners escaped by *digging* a tunnel under the fence.

2 [+ *obj*] : to uncover (something that is underground) by moving earth, soil, sand, etc. • *digging* potatoes • *digging* clams on the beach — see also DIG FOR (below)

3 [*no obj*] : to look for information about something • These detectives won't stop *digging* until they find out what happened.

4 *slang* **a** [+ *obj*] : to like or admire (someone or something) • I really *dig* this music. **b** : to understand or appreciate (someone or something) [+ *obj*] You *dig* me? [*no obj*] We don't want you here. You *dig*? **c** [+ *obj*] : to pay attention to or look at (someone or something) • Hey, *dig* that hat. ✧ Senses 4b and 4c have an old-fashioned quality. They are still used, but they are often intended to suggest the language of the 1950s and '60s. Sense 4a is somewhat more common.

5 : to reach for something [*no obj*] She *dug* (around) in her purse for her keys. : to put (your hand) into something [+ *obj*] He *dug* his hands into his pockets.

dig for [*phrasal verb*] **dig for (something)** : to search for (something) by digging • miners *digging for* coal — often used figuratively • The police have been *digging for* clues to help solve this murder.

dig in [*phrasal verb*] **1 dig (something) in** *or* **dig in (something)** : to mix (something) into the soil in the ground by digging • *dig* the compost *in* **2 dig in** *or* **dig (yourself) in** : to dig a trench and take position inside it • The soldiers *dug in* and waited for the enemy to approach. • The soldiers *dug themselves in*. — often used figuratively • We just have to *dig in* and prepare ourselves for the tough times ahead. **3** *informal* : to begin eating • Just grab a plate and *dig in*. **4 dig in your heels** *or* **dig your heels in** : to behave in a stubborn way : to refuse to change • The salesman *dug in his heels* and refused to lower the price any further.

dig into [*phrasal verb*] **1 dig (something) into (something)** : to mix (something) into (soil) by digging • *dig* the compost *into* the soil **2 dig into (something)** **a** *informal* : to begin eating (something) • The family was *digging into* a delicious meal. • They *dug into* their steaks. **b** *somewhat informal* : to try to learn or uncover information by studying (something) • The detectives *dug into* his past and learned that he had once lived in another country. **3 dig (something) into (something)** *or* **dig into (something)** : to push against (a body part) in a sharp and painful way • The bed's springs are *digging into* my back. • Her fingernails *dug into* my hand. = She *dug* her fingernails *into* my hand. • He *dug* his elbow *into* my ribs.

dig out [*phrasal verb*] **dig (something) out** *or* **dig out (something)** **1** : to get (something) by searching • I *dug* some old books *out* of the attic. • She *dug out* some change from her purse. **2** : to get (something) out of soil, sand, snow, etc., by digging • We had to *dig* the car *out* of the snow after the storm. • We spent the afternoon *digging out* [=shoveling snow] after the blizzard.

dig up [*phrasal verb*] **dig up (something)** *or* **dig (something) up** **1** : to uncover or find (something) by digging • They *dug up* [=*unearthed*] buried treasure. • *digging up* large rocks • I want to move this bush. Will you help me *dig* it *up*? **2** *informal* : to discover (information) • The investigators did a lot of research to *dig up* the facts.

dig up (the) dirt see DIRT

dig your own grave : to behave in a way that will cause you to lose or fail • The coach *dug his own grave* when he publicly insulted the team's owner.

[2]dig *noun, pl* **digs**

1 [*count*] : a push with a body part (such as your elbow) : a poke or thrust • She gave me a *dig* in the ribs to get my attention.

2 [*count*] : a criticism or insult that is directed toward a particular person or group • a personal *dig* — often + *at* • Her comments have been interpreted as a sly *dig at* her former husband.

3 [*count*] : a place where scientists try to find buried objects by digging • archaeological *digs*; *also* : the act of digging for buried objects • She participated in a *dig* last summer.

4 digs [*plural*] *informal* **a** *US* : the place where someone lives • She's buying furniture for her new *digs* in the city. **b** *Brit, old-fashioned* : a room rented in another person's home • He still lives **in digs** [=in a rented room] just outside the city.

[1]di•gest /daɪˈʤɛst/ *verb* **-gests**; **-gest•ed**; **-gest•ing**

1 : to change (food that you have eaten) by a biological process into simpler forms that can be used by the body [+ *obj*] He has trouble *digesting* certain foods. • an easily *digested* protein [*no obj*] Soft-boiled eggs *digest* easily.

2 [+ *obj*] : to think over and try to understand (news, information, etc.) • It will take me a while to *digest* this news.

– **di•gest•ible** /daɪˈʤɛstəbəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] • easily *digestible* foods – **di•gest•ibil•i•ty** /daɪˌʤɛstəˈbɪləti/ *noun* [*noncount*]

[2]di•gest /ˈdaɪˌʤɛst/ *noun, pl* **-gests** [*count*] : information or a piece of writing that has been made shorter • a *digest* of the

laws ✧ *Digest* is often used in the names of magazines, such as "Reader's Digest" and "Architectural Digest."

di•ges•tion /daɪ'ʤɛstʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the process by which food is changed to a simpler form after it is eaten ▪ an enzyme that aids in the *digestion* of protein ▪ She began to suffer from poor *digestion* as she grew older.

di•ges•tive /daɪ'ʤɛstɪv/ *adj, always used before a noun*
1 : of or relating to digestion ▪ the *digestive* system of the body
2 : having the power to cause or help digestion ▪ *digestive* enzymes

dig•ger /'dɪgɚ/ *noun, pl* **-gers** [*count*] : a large machine that digs and moves dirt, rocks, etc. — see also GOLD DIGGER

dig•it /'dɪʤət/ *noun, pl* **-its** [*count*]
1 : a written symbol for any of the numbers 0 to 9 ▪ a three-*digit* number like 507 ▪ a five-*digit* zip code
2 : a finger or toe ▪ She suffered several broken *digits*.

dig•i•tal /'dɪʤətl/ *adj*
1 : showing the time with numbers instead of with hour and minute hands ▪ a *digital* watch ▪ *digital* clocks — compare ANALOG
2 : of or relating to information that is stored in the form of the numbers 0 and 1 ▪ You can transfer *digital* images/pictures from your camera to your computer. ▪ a *digital* radio broadcast ▪ a *digital* recording of a sound
3 : using or characterized by computer technology ▪ laptop computers and other *digital* [=*electronic*] devices ▪ In this new *digital* age, computers and the Internet are part of our everyday lives.
4 : of or relating to the fingers or toes ▪ *digital* dexterity
– **dig•i•tal•ly** *adv* ▪ *digitally* recorded music

digital camera *noun, pl* ~ **-eras** [*count*] : a camera that takes pictures without using film : a camera that records images as digital data

digital computer *noun, pl* ~ **-ers** [*count*] : a computer that works with numbers that are represented by the digits 0 and 1

dig•i•tize *also Brit* **dig•i•tise** /'dɪʤəˌtaɪz/ *verb* **-tiz•es**; **-tized**; **-tiz•ing** [+ *obj*] : to change (information or pictures) to digital form ▪ The record company *digitized* the songs and made them available on the Internet.

dig•ni•fied /'dɪgnəˌfaɪd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : serious and somewhat formal : having or showing dignity ▪ She has a kind but *dignified* manner. ▪ He looked very *dignified* in his new suit. ▪ The hotel's lobby is *dignified* but inviting.

dig•ni•fy /'dɪgnəˌfaɪ/ *verb* **-fies**; **-fied**; **-fy•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to cause (something) to have more serious and important quality : to give dignity or importance to (something) ▪ She felt that formal clothing would help *dignify* the occasion.
2 : to treat (something or someone) with respect or seriousness that is not deserved ▪ He said he wouldn't *dignify* his opponents' accusations by responding to them.

dig•ni•tary /'dɪgnəˌteri, *Brit* 'dɪgnətri/ *noun, pl* **-tar•ies** [*count*] : a person who has a high rank or an important position ▪ The dinner was attended by many foreign *dignitaries*. ▪ *dignitaries* of the church

dig•ni•ty /'dɪgnəti/ *noun* [*noncount*]
1 : a way of appearing or behaving that suggests seriousness and self-control ▪ She showed *dignity* in defeat. ▪ The ceremony was conducted with great *dignity*.
2 : the quality of being worthy of honor or respect ▪ Theirs is a country that cherishes freedom and human *dignity*.
beneath your dignity : suitable for someone who is less important than you ▪ He thought washing dishes was *beneath his dignity*. [=he thought that he was too good or important to wash dishes]

di•gress /daɪ'grɛs/ *verb* **-gress•es**; **-gressed**; **-gress•ing** [*no obj*] : to speak or write about something that is different from the main subject being discussed ▪ He *digressed* so often that it was hard to follow what he was saying. ▪ If I can *digress* for a moment, I'd like to briefly mention her earlier films.
– **di•gres•sion** /daɪ'grɛʃən/ *noun, pl* **-sions** [*count*] ▪ The story is filled with humorous *digressions*.

dike (*chiefly US*) *or chiefly Brit* **dyke** /'daɪk/ *noun, pl* **dikes** [*count*]
1 : a long narrow hole that is dug in the ground to carry water : a ditch or trench
2 : a bank or mound of earth that is built to control water and especially to protect an area from flooding : LEVEE

dik•tat /dɪk'tɑ:t/ *noun, pl* **-tats** [*count*] *disapproving* : an order that must be followed ▪ The company president issued a *diktat* that employees may not wear jeans to work.

di•lap•i•dat•ed /də'læpəˌdeɪtəd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : in very bad condition because of age or lack of care ▪ She was living in a *dilapidated* [=*run-down*] old apartment building. ▪ a *dilapidated* neighborhood

di•lap•i•da•tion /dəˌlæpə'deɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a bad condition caused by age or lack of care : a dilapidated condition ▪ The old houses were in various stages of *dilapidation*.

di•late /'daɪˌleɪt/ *verb* **-lates**; **-lat•ed**; **-lat•ing** : to become larger or wider [*no obj*] The drug causes the blood vessels to *dilate*. ▪ During labor, a woman's cervix will *dilate* to about 10 centimeters. [+ *obj*] The drug *dilates* the blood vessels.
dilate on/upon [*phrasal verb*] ***dilate on/upon (something)*** *formal* : to talk about (a subject) for a long time ▪ We spent a long evening listening to him *dilate on* the need for tax relief.
– **dilated** *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ *dilated* pupils – **di•la•tion** /daɪ'leɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ *dilation* of the arteries

dil•a•to•ry /'dɪləˌtori, *Brit* 'dɪlətri/ *adj, formal*
1 : causing a delay ▪ The committee's *dilatory* [=*delaying*] actions caused the loss of hundreds of jobs.
2 [*more* ~; *most* ~] : tending to be late : slow to do something ▪ She tends to be *dilatory* [=*slow*] about answering letters.
– **dil•a•to•ri•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

dil•do /'dɪldoʊ/ *noun, pl* **-dos** [*count*] : an artificial penis that is used to give sexual pleasure

di•lem•ma /də'lɛmə/ *noun, pl* **-mas** [*count*] : a situation in which you have to make a difficult choice ▪ The country's decision to go to war has caused a major *dilemma* for its allies. ▪ We're facing a terrible *dilemma*. ▪ I don't know what to do; it's a real *dilemma*. ▪ a moral *dilemma*
on the horns of a dilemma see ¹HORN

dil•et•tante /'dɪləˌtɑ:nt, *Brit* ˌdɪlə'tænti/ *noun, pl* **-tantes** *also* **-tan•ti** /ˌdɪlə'tɑ:nti, *Brit* ˌdɪlə'tænti/ [*count*] : a person whose interest in an art or in an area of knowledge is not very deep or serious ▪ You can always tell a true expert from a *dilettante*.
– **dil•et•tant•ish** /'dɪləˌtɑ:ntɪʃ/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ a *dilettantish* interest in the arts – **dil•et•tan•tism** /'dɪləˌtɑ:nˌtɪzəm, *Brit* ˌdɪlə'tæntɪzəm/ *noun* [*noncount*]

dil•i•gence /'dɪləʤəns/ *noun* [*noncount*] : careful hard work : continued effort ▪ The reporter showed great *diligence* in tracking down the story. ▪ The company's success reflects the *diligence* of its employees.
– **dil•i•gent** /'dɪləʤənt/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ Many hours of *diligent* [=*painstaking, careful*] research were required. ▪ a *diligent* worker – **dil•i•gent•ly** *adv*

dill /'dɪl/ *noun* [*noncount*] : an herb with leaves that are used in cooking and with seeds that are used in flavoring foods such as pickles — called also (*US*) *dill weed*; see color picture on page C6

dill pickle *noun, pl* ~ **pickles** [*count*] : a pickle that is flavored with dill

dil•ly•dal•ly /'dɪliˌdæli/ *verb* **-dal•lies**; **-dal•lied**; **-dal•ly•ing** [*no obj*] *informal* : to move or act too slowly : to waste time ▪ We need to stop *dillydallying* [=*dawdling, fooling around*] and get to work.

¹di•lute /daɪ'lu:t/ *verb* **-lutes**; **-lut•ed**; **-lut•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to make (a liquid) thinner or less strong by adding water or another liquid ▪ You can *dilute* the medicine with water.
2 : to lessen the strength of (something) ▪ The hiring of the new CEO *diluted* the power of the company's president. ▪ *diluting* the quality of our products
– **diluted** *adj* ▪ *diluted* wine – **di•lu•tion** /daɪ'lu:ʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count*] lower *dilutions* of the medicine [*noncount*] There's been some *dilution* in the stock's value.

²dilute *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *technical* : reduced in strength as a result of containing an added liquid ▪ a *dilute* solution of acid

¹dim /'dɪm/ *adj* **dim•mer**; **dim•mest**
1 : not bright or clear ▪ I found her sitting in a *dim* [=*dark*] corner of the restaurant. ▪ a *dim* [=*obscure, faint*] light ▪ *dim* stars : not seen clearly ▪ Just the *dim* outline of the building could be seen through the fog.
2 : not understood or remembered in a clear way ▪ We had only a *dim* [=*faint, vague*] notion of what was going on. ▪ I have a *dim* memory of your last visit. — see also *the dim and distant past* at DISTANT
3 : not likely to to be good or successful ▪ Prospects for a quick settlement of the strike appear *dim*. [=*unlikely*] ▪ (*US*) The industry faces a *dim* [=*grim*] future.

4 : not good or favorable — used in the phrase ***dim view*** ▪ The author's *dim view* [=bad opinion] of politicians is apparent throughout the book. ▪ She ***takes a dim view of*** human nature. [=she believes that people are naturally bad] ▪ Many fans *take a dim view of* [=many fans are unhappy about] recent changes in the team.

5 *informal* : not intelligent : stupid or dim-witted ▪ She found him pretty *dim* at times.

– **dim•ly** *adv* ▪ The lights were shining *dimly*. ▪ a *dimly* lit room ▪ I *dimly* remember him. – **dim•ness** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the gray *dimness* of dawn

²dim *verb* **dims**; **dimmed**; **dim•ming**

1 : to make (a light) less bright or to become less bright [+ *obj*] *Dim* the lights. ▪ The car's headlights were *dimmed*. [=(*Brit*) *dipped*] [*no obj*] The lights *dimmed*.

2 : to make (something) less strong or clear or to become less strong or clear [+ *obj*] The latest setback has *dimmed* hopes of an early settlement. [*no obj*] Hopes of an early settlement have *dimmed*. ▪ Her beauty *dimmed* rapidly.

dim bulb *noun, pl* ~ **bulbs** [*count*] *US, informal* : a person who is not very smart ▪ He was considered something of a *dim bulb* by his coworkers.

dime /ˈdaɪm/ *noun, pl* **dimes** [*count*] : a U.S. or Canadian coin that is worth 10 cents

a dime a dozen *US, informal* : too common to be valuable or interesting ▪ Beautiful actresses are a *dime a dozen*.

on a dime *informal* **1** : very quickly ▪ My new car can stop *on a dime*. **2** : in a very small space ▪ turn *on a dime*

— see also FIVE-AND-DIME, NICKEL-AND-DIME

di•men•sion /dəˈmɛnʃən/ *noun, pl* **-sions** [*count*]

1 : the length, width, height, or depth of something : a measurement in one direction (such as the distance from the ceiling to the floor in a room) ▪ She carefully measured each *dimension* of the room. ▪ The room's *dimensions* [=its length, width, and height] were surprisingly small.

2 : the amount or number of things that something affects or influences — usually plural ▪ We underestimated the *dimensions* [=*extent*, *range*] of this problem. ▪ the vast *dimensions* [=*magnitude*, *scope*] of the disaster

3 : a part of something ▪ There are many *dimensions* [=*aspects*] to the problem. ▪ The social/political/religious *dimensions* of the problem must also be taken into account. ▪ The more powerful engine gives this car a (whole) new *dimension*. [=makes the car very different]

– **di•men•sion•al** /dəˈmɛnʃənl̩/ *adj* — usually used in combination ▪ a multi-*dimensional* problem — see also ONE-DIMENSIONAL, TWO-DIMENSIONAL, THREE-DIMENSIONAL

dime store *noun, pl* ~ **stores** [*count*] *US, old-fashioned* : a store that sells inexpensive goods : FIVE-AND-DIME

dime–store /ˈdaɪmˌstoɚ/ *adj, always used before a noun, informal* : poor or inferior in quality ▪ *dime-store* [=*cheap*] perfume ▪ They regarded him as just another *dime-store* [=*second-rate*] philosopher.

di•min•ish /dəˈmɪnɪʃ/ *verb* **-ish•es**; **-ished**; **-ish•ing**

1 : to become or to cause (something) to become less in size, importance, etc. [+ *obj*] The passing years did nothing to *diminish* [=*decrease*, *lessen*] their friendship. ▪ The strength of the army was greatly *diminished* by outbreaks of disease. [*no obj*] My interest in the subject has steadily *diminished*. [=*dwindled*] ▪ The drug's side effects should *diminish* over time.

2 [+ *obj*] : to lessen the authority or reputation of (someone or something) ▪ Nothing could *diminish* the importance of his contributions. : to describe (something) as having little value or importance ▪ I don't mean to *diminish* [=*belittle*, *disparage*] her accomplishments.

– **di•min•ish•ment** /dəˈmɪnɪʃmənt/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the *diminishment* of her reputation

di•min•u•en•do /dəˌmɪnjuˈɛndoʊ/ *noun, pl* **-dos** [*count*] *music* : a gradual decrease in the loudness of a section of music

dim•i•nu•tion /ˌdɪməˈnuːʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** *formal* : the act or process of becoming less [*singular*] a *diminution* [=(more commonly) *decrease*] of power [*noncount*] the *diminution* of wealth

¹di•min•u•tive /dəˈmɪnjətɪv/ *adj*

1 [*more* ~; *most* ~] : very small ▪ a *diminutive* actor ▪ a radio with a *diminutive* set of speakers

2 *linguistics* : indicating small size ▪ the *diminutive* suffixes "-ette" and "-ling" ▪ the *diminutive* noun "duckling" ✧ A *diminutive* word or suffix is usually used in describing something small, often with the added suggestion that it is appealing or lovable in some way.

– **di•min•u•tive•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

²diminutive *noun, pl* **-tives** [*count*]

1 : a word or suffix that indicates that something is small ▪ the *diminutives* "-ette" and "kitchenette"

2 : an informal form of a name ✧ *Diminutives* can be a shortened form of a name (such as "Jen" for "Jennifer" and "Dick" for "Richard") or a name with a diminutive suffix added to it (such as "Bobby" for "Bob").

dim•mer /ˈdɪmɚ/ *noun, pl* **-mers** [*count*] : a device that allows you to control the brightness of a light ▪ All the lights in the room are on *dimmers*. [=all the lights can be made brighter or dimmer because they have special switches] ▪ a *dimmer* switch

dim•ple /ˈdɪmpəl/ *noun, pl* **dim•ples** [*count*]

1 : a small area on a part of a person's body (such as the cheek or chin) that naturally curves in ▪ She noticed his *dimples* when he smiled.

2 : a small area on a surface that curves in ▪ the *dimples* on a golf ball

dim•pled /ˈdɪmpəld/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : having dimples ▪ her *dimpled* face/smile ▪ a *dimpled* chin ▪ the baby's chubby, *dimpled* hands

dim•wit /ˈdɪmˌwɪt/ *noun, pl* **-wits** [*count*] *informal* : a stupid person ▪ a harmless *dimwit*

dim–wit•ted /ˈdɪmˈwɪtəd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *informal* : not intelligent ▪ In the comedy, he plays the part of a bumbling, *dim-witted* salesman.

din /ˈdɪn/ *noun* [*singular*] : a loud, confusing mixture of noises that lasts for a long time ▪ It was hard to hear anything above/over the *din* in the restaurant.

dine /ˈdaɪn/ *verb* **dines**; **dined**; **din•ing** [*no obj*] *somewhat formal* : to eat dinner : to have the main meal of the day ▪ We'll be *dining* at six o'clock. ▪ She likes to *dine* at/in expensive restaurants. ▪ I will be *dining* alone tonight. ▪ We hope you have an enjoyable *dining* experience.

dine in [*phrasal verb*] : to have dinner at home ▪ I'm tired of *dining in*. [=*eating in*] Let's go out to eat tonight.

dine on [*phrasal verb*] ***dine on (something)*** : to eat (something) for dinner ▪ We *dined on* pasta and fresh vegetables. ▪ They *dined on* chicken every day for a month. ▪ animals *dining on* fruits, leaves, and insects

dine out [*phrasal verb*] : to have dinner at a restaurant ▪ We always *dine out* [=*eat out*] on Fridays.

wine and dine see ²WINE

din•er /ˈdaɪnɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

1 : a person who is eating dinner in a restaurant ▪ wealthy *diners*

2 *chiefly US* : a small, informal, and inexpensive restaurant that looks like a railroad car ▪ a roadside *diner*

di•nette /daɪˈnɛt/ *noun, pl* **-nettes** [*count*] : a small room or an area near a kitchen that is used for dining ▪ The apartment includes a *dinette*. ▪ a cheap ***dinette set*** [=a small dining table and chairs]

ding•bat /ˈdɪŋˌbæt/ *noun, pl* **-bats** [*count*] *US, informal* : a stupid or crazy person ▪ I told you it wouldn't work, you *dingbat*!

ding–dong /ˈdɪŋˌdɑːŋ/ *noun, pl* **-dongs** [*count*]

1 : the sound of a bell ringing ▪ We were startled by the *ding-dong* of the doorbell.

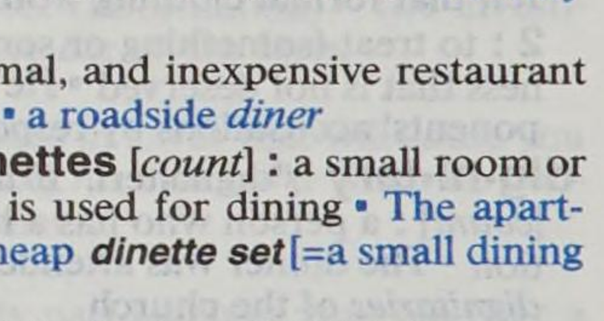
2 *Brit, informal* : a noisy argument ▪ They were having another *ding-dong* about money.

din•ghy /ˈdɪŋi/ *noun, pl* **-ghies** [*count*]

1 : a small boat that is often carried on or towed behind a larger boat

2 : a small rubber boat that is used by people escaping from a sinking boat

din•go /ˈdɪŋgoʊ/ *noun, pl* **-goes** [*count*] : a wild dog of Australia



dingo

din•gy /ˈdɪnʤi/ *adj* **din•gi•er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~] : dark and dirty : not fresh or clean ▪ He's been staying in a *dingy* motel. ▪ a *dingy* room ▪ *dingy* colors

– **din•gi•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

dining car *noun, pl* ~ **cars** [*count*] : a railroad car in which meals are served — called also (*Brit*) *buffet car*

dining hall *noun, pl* ~ **halls** [*count*] : a large room where meals are served at a school, college, etc.

dining room *noun, pl* ~ **rooms** [*count*] : a room that is used for eating meals

din•ky /ˈdɪŋki/ *adj* **din•ki•er**; **-est** *informal*

1 *US* : very small and not appealing ▪ a *dinky* apartment ▪ I used to drive a *dinky* little car.

2 *Brit* : small and appealing ▪ wearing nice shoes and *dinky* [=*cute*] accessories

din•ner /ˈdɪnɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ners**

1 : the main meal of the day [*count*] We had many pleasant *dinners* together. ▪ a steak/lobster *dinner* [*noncount*] What's for *dinner*? ▪ They had *dinner* early. ▪ We're planning to ask them to *dinner* soon. ▪ *Dinner* is served. [=dinner is ready; it's time to come to the table for dinner] — often used before another noun ▪ *dinner* guests ▪ *dinner* rolls ▪ an enjoyable *dinner* companion ▪ My new boyfriend and I had a ***dinner date*** [=a date to eat dinner together] last night. ▪ She hosted a ***dinner party*** [=a party at which dinner is served] at her apartment. ▪ the ***dinner table*** [=the table where people eat dinner]

✧ To go ***out to dinner*** is to have dinner at a restaurant. ▪ We haven't gone *out to dinner* in weeks. ▪ He took her *out to dinner* several times.

> ***usage*** Most Americans have dinner in the evening, although if the main meal of the day is served in the afternoon it is also referred to as dinner. When referring to the evening meal, *dinner* and *supper* are basically synonyms in U.S. English. *Dinner* is a somewhat more formal word than *supper* and it tends to describe a somewhat more formal meal.

2 [*count*] : a usually large formal event at which dinner is eaten ▪ Two hundred people attended his retirement *dinner*. ▪ the club's annual *dinner* [=*banquet*] ▪ an awards *dinner* [=a dinner at which awards are given]

3 [*count*] : a cooked and packaged meal that usually only needs to be heated before it is eaten ▪ a frozen *dinner* — see also TV DINNER

dinner jacket *noun, pl* ~ **-ets** [*count*] : a jacket that is worn by men on formal occasions : the jacket of a tuxedo

dinner suit *noun, pl* ~ **suits** [*count*] *Brit* : TUXEDO

dinner theater *noun, pl* ~ **-aters** [*count*] *US* : a restaurant in which a play is presented after the meal is over

din•ner•time /ˈdɪnɚˌtaɪm/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the usual time for dinner ▪ I hate getting phone calls at *dinnertime*.

din•ner•ware /ˈdɪnɚˌweɚ/ *noun* [*noncount*] *chiefly US* : plates, bowls, glasses, etc., that are used for serving and eating dinner

di•no•saur /ˈdaɪnəˌsoɚ/ *noun, pl* **-saurs** [*count*]

1 : one of many reptiles that lived on Earth millions of years ago

2 : someone or something that is no longer useful or current : an obsolete or out-of-date person or thing ▪ The old factory is now a rusting *dinosaur*. ▪ The character she plays is a *dinosaur*—a former beauty queen who is living in the past.

dint /ˈdɪnt/ *noun*

by dint of *formal* : because of (something) : by means of (something) ▪ They succeeded *by dint of* hard work.

di•o•cese /ˈdajəsəs/ *noun, pl* **-ces•es** /ˈdajəsəsəz/ [*count*] : the area that is controlled by a bishop in a Christian church ▪ a Catholic *diocese*

– **di•oc•e•san** /daɪˈɑːsəsən/ *adj* ▪ *diocesan* priests

di•ode /ˈdaɪˌoʊd/ *noun, pl* **-odes** [*count*] *technical* : an electronic device that allows an electric current to flow in one direction only

di•ox•ide /daɪˈɑːkˌsaɪd/ *noun, pl* **-ides** [*count*] *chemistry* : a molecule that has two atoms of oxygen and one atom of another element (such as carbon) — see also CARBON DIOXIDE, SULFUR DIOXIDE

di•ox•in /daɪˈɑːksən/ *noun, pl* **-ins** [*count*] : a poisonous chemical that is sometimes used in farming and industry

[1]dip /ˈdɪp/ *verb* **dips**; **dipped**; **dip•ping**

1 [+ *obj*] **a** : to put (something) into a liquid and pull it out again quickly — usually + *in* or *into* ▪ Lightly *dip* the paintbrush *into* the paint. ▪ We *dipped* our toes *into* the water to see how cold it was. ▪ The shrimp are *dipped in* batter and then fried. ▪ a *dipping* sauce [=a sauce that food is dipped into] **b** : to move (something) into and out of something — + *in* or *into* ▪ He *dipped* his hand *into* his pocket and pulled out a key.

2 [+ *obj*] : to lift (liquid) out from a container ▪ Use a ladle to *dip* some water out of the pot. ▪ *dipping* water from a well

3 : to move downward [*no obj*] The sun *dipped* below the horizon. ▪ The road *dips* over the hill. ▪ I saw his head *dip* below the surface of the water. [+ *obj*] He *dipped* his head.

4 [*no obj*] : to decrease somewhat usually for a short time ▪ Gasoline prices have *dipped* again. ▪ The temperature could *dip* below freezing tonight.

5 [+ *obj*] *Brit* : to reduce the amount of light coming from (headlights) ▪ *Dip* [=(*US*) *dim*] the car's headlights.

6 [+ *obj*] : to put (an animal) into a liquid containing a chemical that kills insects ▪ *dipping* sheep

dip into [*phrasal verb*] ***dip into (something)*** **1 a** : to take out an amount of money from (something) ▪ They had to *dip into* their savings to pay for the repairs. ▪ Consumers are *dipping into* their pocketbooks [=they are spending money] this season. **b** : to use part of (something) ▪ He *dipped into* his knowledge of history to reconsider the present political situation. ▪ a company *dipping into* its pool of job applicants **2** : to read parts of (something) in a casual or brief way ▪ *dip into* a book of poetry — see also [1]DIP 1 (above)

[2]dip *noun, pl* **dips**

1 [*count*] : a brief swim ▪ They went for a quick *dip* in the pool.

2 [*count*] : a low place in a surface ▪ There's a *dip* in the road just beyond the curve.

3 [*count*] : a decrease that continues usually for a short time ▪ There's been a slight *dip* [=*drop*] in the unemployment rate. ▪ a *dip* in prices

4 [*count*] : an amount of something (such as food) that is taken by dipping into a container ▪ a *dip* [=*scoop*] of ice cream

5 : a sauce or soft mixture into which food (such as raw vegetables) may be dipped [*noncount*] All they had to eat were crackers and cheese *dip*. ▪ potato chips and onion *dip* [*count*] a delicious bean *dip*

6 [*count, noncount*] : a liquid into which an animal is dipped in order to kill insects ▪ sheep *dip*

7 [*count*] *US slang* : a stupid person ▪ That guy's a complete *dip*.

diph•the•ria /dɪfˈθirijə/ *noun* [*noncount*] *medical* : a serious disease that makes breathing very difficult

diph•thong /ˈdɪfˌθɑːŋ/ *noun, pl* **-thongs** [*count*] *linguistics* : two vowel sounds joined in one syllable to form one speech sound ▪ The sounds of "ou" in "out" and of "oy" in "boy" are *diphthongs*.

di•plo•ma /dəˈploʊmə/ *noun, pl* **-mas** [*count*] : a document which shows that a person has finished a course of study or has graduated from a school ▪ He earned his high school *diploma* by attending classes at night.

di•plo•ma•cy /dəˈploʊməsi/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 : the work of maintaining good relations between the governments of different countries ▪ She has had a long and distinguished career in *diplomacy*. ▪ The government avoided a war by successfully resolving the issues through *diplomacy*. ▪ international *diplomacy* — see also *gunboat diplomacy* at GUNBOAT

2 : skill in dealing with others without causing bad feelings ▪ This is a situation that calls for tactful *diplomacy*.

dip•lo•mat /ˈdɪpləˌmæt/ *noun, pl* **-mats** [*count*]

1 : a person who represents his or her country's government in a foreign country : someone whose work is diplomacy ▪ The President will be meeting with foreign *diplomats*.

2 : a person who has skill in dealing with other people ▪ He's a talented architect but a poor *diplomat*.

dip•lo•mat•ic /ˌdɪpləˈmætɪk/ *adj*

1 : involving the work of maintaining good relations between the governments of different countries : of or relating to diplomats or their work ▪ Negotiators are working to restore full *diplomatic* relations. ▪ *diplomatic* credentials ▪ a *diplomatic* career

2 [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not causing bad feelings : having or showing an ability to deal with people politely ▪ We need to find a *diplomatic* [=*tactful*] way to say no.

– **dip•lo•mat•i•cal•ly** /ˌdɪpləˈmætɪkli/ *adv* ▪ The situation was resolved *diplomatically*. ▪ One critic *diplomatically* described the show as "interesting."

diplomatic corps *noun, pl* **diplomatic corps** [*count*] : all of the foreign diplomats in a country ▪ She is an important member of the *diplomatic corps*.

diplomatic immunity *noun* [*noncount*] : an international law that gives foreign diplomats special rights in the country where they are working ✧ Under *diplomatic immunity*, dip-

lomats cannot be arrested and do not have to pay taxes while working in other countries.

dip•per /'dɪpɚ/ *noun, pl* **-pers** [*count*] : a large spoon with a long handle that is used for dipping liquids : LADLE — see also BIG DIPPER, LITTLE DIPPER

dip•py /'dɪpi/ *adj* **dip•pi•er**; **-est** *informal* : silly or foolish in usually an appealing way ▪ a *dippy* comedy ▪ a movie about a slightly *dippy* young musician

dip•so /'dɪpsoʊ/ *noun, pl* **-sos** [*count*] *informal + old-fashioned* : DIPSOMANIAC

dip•so•ma•ni•ac /ˌdɪpsə'meɪnijæk/ *noun, pl* **-acs** [*count*] : a person who has an extreme and uncontrollable desire for alcohol : ALCOHOLIC

dip•stick /'dɪpˌstɪk/ *noun, pl* **-sticks** [*count*]

1 : a long thin piece of metal with marks that are used to show how much of a fluid (such as motor oil) is in a container or an engine

2 *informal* : a stupid person ▪ Some *dipstick* cut in front of me on the highway.

dip switch *noun, pl* ~ **switches** [*count*] *Brit* : a switch for dimming or lowering the headlights of an automobile

dire /'dajɚ/ *adj* **dir•er**; **dir•est** [*or more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : very bad : causing great fear or worry ▪ Even the smallest mistake could have *dire* [=*terrible*, *dreadful*] consequences. ▪ a *dire* emergency ▪ The circumstances are now more *dire* than ever. ▪ With its best player out of the game, the team found itself ***in dire straits*** [=in a very bad or difficult situation] ▪ The company now finds itself *in dire* financial *straits*. [=the company is having bad financial problems]

2 : warning of disaster : showing a very bad future ▪ Some analysts are issuing *dire* economic forecasts. ▪ a *dire* prediction/warning

3 a : requiring immediate action : very urgent ▪ The government is in *dire* [=*desperate*] need of reform. ▪ *dire* necessity

b : very serious or extreme ▪ They live in *dire* poverty.

[1]di•rect /də'rɛkt/ *verb* **-rects**; **-rect•ed**; **-rect•ing**

1 [+ *obj*] : to cause (someone or something) to turn, move, or point in a particular way ▪ Lights were *directed* [=*aimed*] toward the paintings on the wall. ▪ Be sure that the water nozzle is *directed* downward. ▪ The sloping ground helps *direct* water away from the home.

2 [+ *obj*] **a** : to cause (someone's attention, thoughts, emotions, etc.) to relate to a particular person, thing, goal, etc. ▪ Let me *direct* your attention to the book's second chapter. ▪ We were asked to *direct* our thoughts and prayers to the people who survived the disaster. ▪ The students *directed* their efforts/energies/talents toward improving their community. ▪ He *directed* [=*aimed*] much of his anger at his coworkers. ▪ A lot of the criticism has been *directed* toward the concert's organizers. **b** : to say (something) to a particular person or group ▪ I'd like to *direct* [=*address*] my opening comments to the younger members of the audience.

3 [+ *obj*] : to guide, control, or manage (someone or something) ▪ She's been chosen to *direct* [=*handle*] the project. ▪ He is responsible for *directing* the activities of the sales team. ▪ In my current position, I *direct* a staff of over 200 employees. ▪ We need someone to *direct* traffic.

4 : to lead a group of people in performing or filming (a movie, play, etc.) [+ *obj*] They're still looking for someone to *direct* the show. ▪ She has *directed* over 20 films in her career. ▪ The play was poorly *directed*. [*no obj*] She enjoys both acting and *directing*. ▪ I think I'd like to *direct* some day.

5 [+ *obj*] : to show or tell (someone) how to go to a place : to give (someone) directions ▪ The signs *directed* [=*guided*] us to the museum. ▪ Could you please *direct* me to the office? [=please tell me where the office is]

6 [+ *obj*] *somewhat formal* **a** : to ask or tell (a person or group) *to do* something ▪ He *directed* [=*instructed*, *ordered*] the workers *to stop* what they were doing. ▪ The judge *directed* the jury *to disregard* several of the attorney's comments. ▪ The resolution *directed* the commission *to prepare* proposals. **b** : to order (something) to be done — + *that* ▪ His will *directed that* the money be used to support local schools.

7 [+ *obj*] : to send (a letter, note, etc.) to a specified person or place ▪ Please *direct* [=*address*, *send*] your letters to my office. ▪ The letter was *directed* to the company's president.

[2]direct *adj*

1 [*more* ~; *most* ~] : going the shortest distance from one place to another : going straight without turning or stopping ▪ I found a more *direct* route to the city. ▪ We'll be taking a *direct* [=*nonstop*] flight from New York to Los Angeles. ▪ That way is more *direct*. — opposite INDIRECT

2 *always used before a noun* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : coming straight from a source ▪ Keep these plants out of *direct* sunlight. ▪ The coastline was exposed to the *direct* force of the hurricane. — opposite INDIRECT

3 *always used before a noun* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : coming straight from a cause or reason : connected or related to something in a clear way ▪ These problems are a *direct* result of poor planning. [=poor planning was the cause of these problems] ▪ The weather had a *direct* effect/impact on our plans. ▪ There's a *direct* connection between the two events. ▪ The investigation began in *direct* response to the newspaper story. — opposite INDIRECT

4 *always used before a noun* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : having no people or things in between that could have an effect ▪ His position gives him *direct* access to the president. [=he can talk to the president face-to-face] ▪ This is a *direct* order from the General. ▪ The board of directors has *direct* control of the company's future. ▪ Her theory was based on *direct* observation. ▪ There's no *direct* evidence to support his claims. ▪ *direct* knowledge/experience — opposite INDIRECT

5 *always used before a noun* : related in a line from your parent, grandparent, great-grandparent, etc. ▪ She's my *direct* ancestor. ▪ He claims to be a *direct* descendant of George Washington.

6 *always used before a noun* : perfect or exact ▪ The word has no *direct* translation in English. ▪ The building took a ***direct hit*** from an enemy plane.

7 [*more* ~; *most* ~] **a** : said or done in a clear and honest way : sincere and straightforward ▪ We need a *direct* answer. Are you coming or not? ▪ The candidate made a *direct* appeal to the voters. **b** : speaking in a clear and honest way ▪ I wish you would be more *direct*. ▪ She has a very *direct* way of dealing with customers. — opposite INDIRECT

8 *always used before a noun, grammar* : consisting of the exact words of a speaker or writer ▪ She used several *direct* quotations from the artist in her article. — opposite INDIRECT

[3]direct *adv* : in a direct way: such as **a** : in a straight line without turning or stopping ▪ We flew *direct* [=*straight, nonstop*] from Chicago to Paris. **b** : straight from a source with nothing and nobody in between ▪ The company sells its product *direct* [=*directly*] to customers on the streets. ▪ It costs less if you buy it *direct* from the manufacturer.

direct current *noun* [*noncount*] : an electric current that is flowing in one direction only — abbr. *DC*; compare ALTERNATING CURRENT

direct debit *noun, pl* ~ **-its** [*count, noncount*] *chiefly Brit* : a way of paying bills by allowing people or companies to take money directly from your bank account on a particular day ▪ paying your bills by *direct debit*

direct deposit *noun* [*noncount*] *US* : a way of paying someone so that the money is sent directly into the person's bank account without the use of checks or cash ▪ Our employees are paid by *direct deposit*.

di•rec•tion /də'rɛkʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**

1 [*count*] : the course or path on which something is moving or pointing ▪ The army attacked from three different *directions*. ▪ Down the road, he could see a bus coming from the opposite *direction*. ▪ The wind ***changed direction*** and started blowing in our faces. ▪ I've got a bad ***sense of direction***. [=I become lost frequently; I often don't know which way to go] — often used after *in* ▪ She and I were walking *in* the same *direction*. ▪ You're headed *in* the wrong *direction*. ▪ The top of the hill provides a view *in* all *directions*. ▪ The car was last seen headed ***in the direction of*** [=*towards*] the stadium. ▪ She started walking ***in my direction***. [=toward me]

2 *directions* [*plural*] **a** : a statement that tells a person what to do and how to do it : an order or instruction ▪ Carefully read the *directions* before you begin the test. ▪ *Directions* appear on the package. ▪ You have to learn to ***follow directions***. [=do what you are told or are instructed to do] **b** : instructions that tell you how to go to a place ▪ We had to stop to ask for *directions* to the beach. ▪ Excuse me. Could you please give me *directions* to the movie theater?

3 [*noncount*] **a** : control or management of someone or something ▪ He was put in charge and given overall *direction* of the program. ▪ Twenty-three employees work ***under her direction***. ▪ Several nurses working ***under the direction of*** this doctor have made complaints. **b** : the act or process of directing a play, movie, television show, or musical performance ▪ The play's unusual *direction* demanded much from the actors.

4 a [*count*] : the way that something is progressing or developing ▪ These discoveries have given a new *direction* to their research. ▪ Our business is expanding in all *directions*. ▪ He hasn't yet decided what *direction* he should take as a writer. [=hasn't decided exactly what he should try to do as a writer] **b** [*noncount*] : a goal or purpose that guides your actions or decisions ▪ Her life seemed to lack *direction* after she left school.

– **di•rec•tion•less** *adj* ▪ a talented but *directionless* musician – **di•rect•ness** /də'rɛktnəs/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the *directness* of the route/connection ▪ He answered their questions with honesty and *directness*.

di•rec•tion•al /də'rɛkʃənl/ *adj*

1 : relating to or showing direction ▪ We work with maps to improve the students' *directional* skills. ▪ *directional* stability ▪ the *directional* signal lights on an automobile

2 *technical* : used for receiving sounds, radio signals, etc., that are coming from a particular direction ▪ a *directional* microphone ▪ The radio has a *directional* antenna.

di•rec•tive /də'rɛktɪv/ *noun, pl* **-tives** [*count*] *formal* : an official order or instruction ▪ They received a written *directive* instructing them to develop new security measures. ▪ a presidential *directive*

[1]di•rect•ly /də'rɛktli/ *adv*

1 [*more* ~; *most* ~] : in a direct way ▪ He refused to answer the question *directly*. ▪ She said that she wanted to speak to you *directly*. ▪ The package will be sent *directly* to your home. ▪ The two accidents are *directly* related. ▪ Thousands of people were *directly* affected by the disaster. ▪ Antonyms are words that are *directly* opposite in meaning.

2 : in a straight or direct line from a particular position ▪ We parked *directly* behind the store. ▪ He sat *directly* across from me at the dinner table. ▪ Their house is *directly* ahead. = It's *directly* in front of us.

3 : without delay ▪ The second game followed *directly* [=*immediately*] after the first.

4 *somewhat old-fashioned* : in a little while ▪ We'll be leaving *directly*. [=*soon*, *shortly*]

[2]directly *conj, Brit* : immediately after : as soon as ▪ I came *directly* I received your message.

directly proportional *adj* : related so that one becomes larger or smaller when the other becomes larger or smaller ▪ His earnings are *directly proportional* to the number of units he sells. — compare INVERSELY PROPORTIONAL

direct mail *noun* [*noncount*] : papers containing advertisements that are mailed directly to people's homes

direct marketing *noun* [*noncount*] : a way of selling things by calling people on the telephone or mailing them advertisements or catalogs

direct object *noun, pl* ~ **-jects** [*count*] *grammar* : a noun, pronoun, or noun phrase which indicates the person or thing that receives the action of a verb ▪ "Me" in "He likes me" is a *direct object*. ▪ In the sentence "They built a house for her," the *direct object* is "house" and the indirect object is "her." — compare INDIRECT OBJECT

di•rec•tor /də'rɛktɚ/ *noun, pl* **-tors** [*count*]

1 : a person who manages an organized group of people or a part of an organization (such as a school or business) ▪ the choir *director* ▪ The company will hire a new *director* of marketing. ▪ She's the *director* of graduate studies at the university. ▪ the school's athletic *director* — see also FUNERAL DIRECTOR

2 : one of a group of managers who control a company or corporation ▪ executive/deputy/associate *directors* ▪ She's on the ***board of directors*** [=a group of people who make decisions] for a large corporation. — see also MANAGING DIRECTOR

3 : a person who directs a play, movie, etc. ▪ She's considered one of the best young *directors* in Hollywood. ▪ a movie/film/theater *director*

di•rec•tor•ate /də'rɛktərət/ *noun, pl* **-ates** [*count*]

1 : a group of managers who control a company or corporation : a board of directors ▪ the corporation's eight-member *directorate*

2 : a group of people who are in charge of a program or department ▪ the government's agricultural *directorate*

di•rec•to•ri•al /də,rɛk'torijəl/ *adj* : of or relating to a director and especially to the director of a play, movie, etc. ▪ her *directorial* style ✧ A movie director's first film is often called a ***directorial debut***. ▪ He made his *directorial debut* with a film that he also wrote and produced.

di•rec•tor•ship /də'rɛktɚ,ʃɪp/ *noun, pl* **-ships**

1 [*count*] : a position as a director of a company or corporation ▪ He holds *directorships* at several banks.

2 [*noncount*] : the time when a person holds the position of director ▪ The museum has flourished under her *directorship*.

di•rec•to•ry /də'rɛktəri/ *noun, pl* **-ries** [*count*] : a book that contains an alphabetical list of names of people, businesses, etc.; *especially* : PHONE BOOK

directory assistance *noun* [*noncount*] *US* : a service that people can call to get the telephone number for a person or organization : INFORMATION — called also (*Brit*) *directory enquiries*

dirge /'dɚdʒ/ *noun, pl* **dirg•es** [*count*] : a slow song that expresses sadness or sorrow ▪ a funeral *dirge*

dirt /'dɚt/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 : loose earth or soil ▪ Pack *dirt* loosely around the base of the plant. ▪ mounds/piles of *dirt*

2 : a substance (such as mud or dust) that makes things unclean ▪ You've got some *dirt* on your face. ▪ Their shoes were covered with *dirt*. ▪ No amount of cleaning will get rid of all this *dirt*.

3 *informal* : a person or thing that has no value ▪ He ***treated me like dirt***. [=he treated me very badly]

4 *informal* : information about someone that could harm the person's reputation ▪ She's been spreading *dirt* [=*gossip*] about her ex-husband. ✧ To ***dig up*** (***the***) ***dirt*** on someone is to find out information that is harmful to that person's reputation. ▪ He's been *digging up dirt* on his political rivals. ✧ To ***dish (the) dirt*** is to spread harmful gossip or information. ▪ He seems to have written his memoirs mainly so that he can *dish the dirt* on all his former lovers.

hit the dirt see [1]HIT

in the dirt ✧ In baseball, a pitch is *in the dirt* when it hits the ground near home plate before reaching the catcher. ▪ He swung and missed at a curveball *in the dirt*.

– see also PAY DIRT

dirt•bag /'dɚt,bæg/ *noun, pl* **-bags** [*count*] *chiefly US, informal* : a very bad and unpleasant person ▪ a sleazy *dirtbag*

dirt bike *noun, pl* ~ **bikes** [*count*] : a small motorcycle that is designed to be used on rough surfaces

dirt cheap *adj, informal* : very cheap or inexpensive ▪ The tickets were *dirt cheap*. ▪ *dirt cheap* prices

– **dirt cheap** *adv* ▪ I can get you a stereo system *dirt cheap*.

dirt farmer *noun, pl* ~ **-ers** [*count*] *US, informal* : a poor farmer who lives by farming the land usually without the help of paid workers

dirt floor *noun, pl* ~ **floors** [*count*] : a floor with a hard dirt surface

dirt–poor /'dɚt'puɚ/ *adj, informal* : very poor : suffering extreme poverty ▪ When I was growing up, my family was *dirt-poor*.

dirt road *noun, pl* ~ **roads** [*count*] : a road with a hard dirt surface : an unpaved road

[1]dirty /'dɚti/ *adj* **dirt•i•er**; **-est**

1 : not clean ▪ All my socks are *dirty*. ▪ Try not to get your clothes *dirty*. ▪ *dirty* dishes ▪ I can't breathe this *dirty* city air. ▪ The baby has a *dirty* diaper.

2 a : indecent and offensive ▪ *dirty* language — see also DIRTY WORD **b** : relating to sex in an indecent or offensive way ▪ *dirty* [=*pornographic*] movies/magazines/pictures ▪ I hate listening to his *dirty* jokes. ▪ He has a ***dirty mind***. [=he often thinks about sex] — see also DIRTY OLD MAN

3 : not fair or honest ▪ He has a reputation as a *dirty* player. [=he cheats; he tries to hurt his opponents] ▪ a criminal's ***dirty money*** [=money earned in an illegal activity] ▪ That was a ***dirty trick***! [=an unkind thing to do]

4 a : very bad : deserving to be hated or regretted ▪ War is a *dirty* business. ▪ It's a *dirty* shame that nobody tried to help him. ▪ That's a *dirty* lie! ▪ He's a *dirty* liar! **b** : likely to cause shame or disgrace ▪ That's the *dirty* [=*shameful*] little secret that the industry doesn't want you to know.

5 : difficult or unpleasant ▪ Why do I always get stuck doing the *dirty* work? ▪ It's a *dirty* job, but somebody's got to do it. ✧ To ***get your hands dirty*** is to do difficult and often unpleasant work. ▪ Our boss isn't afraid to *get her hands dirty* and help us finish the work on time.

6 : showing dislike or anger ▪ She gave me a ***dirty look***.

7 : not clear or bright in color ▪ a *dirty* [=*dull*] red — see also *dirty blond* at [1]BLOND

– **dirt•i•ness** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the *dirtiness* of the house

[2]dirty *verb* **dirt•ies**; **dirt•ied**; **dirty•ing** [+ *obj*] : to make (something) dirty ▪ Take off your shoes to keep from *dirtying* the floor. ▪ Her fingers were *dirtied* with ink. ▪ The baby just

dirtied [=*soiled*] her diaper. • The river was *dirtied* [=*polluted*] with industrial waste.

[3]dirty *adv*

1 : in an unfair or dishonest way • Watch out for her. She plays *dirty*. • He usually wins because he fights *dirty*.

2 : in an indecent or offensive way • talking *dirty*

dirty bomb *noun, pl* ~ **bombs** [*count*] : a bomb that is designed to spread a large amount of radioactive material

dirty laundry *noun* [*noncount*] : private information that causes shame and embarrassment when it is made public • The company is trying to keep its *dirty laundry* from being aired/washed in public. • Let's not ***air our dirty laundry*** [=discuss our problems, make our problems known] in public. — called also *dirty linen*

dirty old man *noun, pl* ~ **men** [*count*] *disapproving* : an old man who is too interested in sex

dirty tricks *noun* [*plural*] : secret and dishonest activities that are done to ruin someone's or something's chance of success • political *dirty tricks*

dirty word *noun, pl* ~ **words**

1 [*count*] : an offensive word • The movie is just a lot of sex, violence, and *dirty words*.

2 [*singular*] : a word, subject, or idea that is disliked by some people • They regard "taxes" as a *dirty word*. • Politics is a *dirty word* [=they don't talk about politics] in their home. • The way he acts, you'd think compassion was a *dirty word*.

dis *also* **diss** /ˈdɪs/ *verb* **dis•ses**; **dissed**; **dis•sing** [+ *obj*] *US slang*

1 : to treat (someone) with disrespect : to be rude to (someone) • He got *dissed* [=*insulted*] by the other guys on the team.

2 : to criticize (something) in a way that shows disrespect • Don't *dis* my car.

– **dis** *also* **diss** *noun, pl* **disses** [*count*] • It's not a *dis*. [=not an insult]

dis- *prefix*

1 *in verbs* : to do the opposite of • *dis*agree • *dis*appear • *dis*approve

2 *in nouns* : opposite or absence of • *dis*belief • *dis*comfort • *dis*honor

3 *in adjectives* : not • *dis*agreeable • *dis*connected • *dis*interested

dis•abil•i•ty /ˌdɪsəˈbɪlətɪ/ *noun, pl* **-ties**

1 [*count*] : a condition (such as an illness or an injury) that damages or limits a person's physical or mental abilities • She has learned to keep a positive attitude about her *disability*. • *disabilities* such as blindness and deafness • a program for children with *disabilities* — see also LEARNING DISABILITY

2 [*noncount*] : the condition of being unable to do things in the normal way : the condition of being disabled • It's a serious disease that can cause *disability* or death.

3 [*noncount*] *US* : a program that provides financial support to a disabled person • After he injured his back he had to quit his job and go ***on disability***.

dis•able /dɪsˈeɪbəl/ *verb* **-ables**; **-abled**; **-abling** [+ *obj*]

1 : to cause (something) to be unable to work in the normal way • *disable* a bomb • *disable* an alarm • *disable* a computer program

2 : to make (someone) unable to do something (such as use part of the body) in the usual way — often used as *(be) disabled* • He *was disabled* by the accident.

– **dis•able•ment** /dɪsˈeɪbəlmənt/ *noun* [*noncount*]

– **disabling** *adj* • He suffered a *disabling* illness when he was in college. • a *disabling* injury/condition • The patient was experiencing severe, *disabling* pain.

disabled *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : having a physical or mental disability : unable to perform one or more natural activities (such as walking or seeing) because of illness, injury, etc. • The organization is working to protect the rights of *disabled* veterans. • special classes for ***learning disabled*** children [=for children who have a learning disability]

the disabled : people who are disabled : people who have a disability • She's always been an effective spokesperson for *the disabled*.

disabled list *noun*

the disabled list *US, sports* : a list of players on a team (such as a baseball team) who are unable to play because of injury or illness • The team has had to place several key players on *the disabled list*. — abbr. *DL*

dis•abuse /ˌdɪsəˈbjuːz/ *verb* **-abus•es**; **-abused**; **-abusing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to show or convince (someone) that a belief is incorrect — + *of* • He offered to *disabuse* us *of* what he called our "cherished myths." • Anyone expecting a romantic story will be quickly *disabused of* that notion by the opening chapter.

dis•ad•van•tage /ˌdɪsədˈvæntɪʤ/ *noun, pl* **-tag•es**

1 [*count*] **a** : something that causes difficulty : something that makes someone or something worse or less likely to succeed than others • This program has the *disadvantage* [=*shortcoming*] of being more expensive than the others. • She had the *disadvantage* of growing up in a poor community. • He felt that his lack of formal education ***put/placed him at a disadvantage*** [=made it harder for him to succeed] in the business world. • They argued that the new regulations would *place* their company *at a competitive disadvantage* in the marketplace. **b** : a bad or undesirable quality or feature • There are advantages and *disadvantages* to the new system.

2 [*noncount*] : loss, damage, or harm • The deal worked ***to our disadvantage***. [=the deal was harmful to us in some way] — opposite ADVANTAGE

dis•ad•van•taged /ˌdɪsədˈvæntɪʤd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : lacking the things (such as money and education) that are considered necessary for an equal position in society • The program provides aid for economically *disadvantaged* groups/communities. • *disadvantaged* [=*underprivileged*] children

the disadvantaged : disadvantaged people • protecting the rights of *the disadvantaged*

dis•ad•van•ta•geous /dɪsˌædˌvænˈteɪʤəs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* : making it harder for a person to succeed or to do something : causing someone to have a disadvantage • They might have to resell the property at a *disadvantageous* time. • Minority groups find themselves in a *disadvantageous* position. • The current system is *disadvantageous* to women. — opposite ADVANTAGEOUS

– **dis•ad•van•ta•geous•ly** *adv* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

dis•af•fected /ˌdɪsəˈfɛktəd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* : no longer happy and willing to support a leader, government, etc. • bored and *disaffected* youth • The troops had become *disaffected*. • Both political parties are looking for ways to regain the trust of *disaffected* voters.

– **dis•af•fec•tion** /ˌdɪsəˈfɛkʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] • There was widespread *disaffection* among the troops.

dis•agree /ˌdɪsəˈgriː/ *verb* **-agrees**; **-agreed**; **-agree•ing** [*no obj*]

1 : to have a different opinion : to fail to agree • I think that I should sell my car, but he *disagrees*. — often + *with* • I strongly *disagree with* that statement. • She *disagrees with* him on almost every subject. — often + *on, about*, or *over* • They *disagreed about* the price. • We *disagree on* the best way to raise the money. • We found ourselves *disagreeing over* the meaning of the poem.

2 : to be different • The two descriptions *disagree*. [=they do not match] — often + *with* • Her story *disagrees with* the facts of the case.

3 : to not be suitable for or pleasing to someone — + *with* • Fried foods *disagree with* me. [=make me feel unwell]

agree to disagree see AGREE

dis•agree•able /ˌdɪsəˈgriːəbəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : not pleasing : unpleasant or offensive • The medicine had a *disagreeable* taste. • the *disagreeable* odor of the garbage • Some of her duties are very *disagreeable* (to her).

2 *of a person* : difficult to deal with : easily angered or annoyed • His health problems made him surly and *disagreeable*. [=*irritable, querulous*] • I've never known her to be so *disagreeable*. — opposite AGREEABLE

– **dis•agree•ably** /ˌdɪsəˈgriːəbli/ *adv* • a *disagreeably* bitter taste

dis•agree•ment /ˌdɪsəˈgriːmənt/ *noun, pl* **-ments**

1 a [*noncount*] : failure to agree • There's been a lot of *disagreement* about/on/over how best to spend the money. • He has expressed *disagreement* [=he has said that he disagrees] with some aspects of the proposal. **b** [*count*] : a difference of opinion : an argument caused by people having different opinions about something • We've had a number of serious *disagreements* [=*disputes, arguments*] over the years. • Several *disagreements* have yet to be resolved.

2 [*noncount*] : the state of being different or unalike • There's considerable *disagreement* between the descriptions given by the two witnesses. [=the two descriptions do not agree/match]

dis•al•low /ˌdɪsəˈlaʊ/ *verb* **-lows**; **-lowed**; **-low•ing** [+ *obj*] : to refuse to allow (something) : to officially decide that (something) is not acceptable or valid • The court *disallowed*

[=*rejected*] their claim. ▪ The touchdown was *disallowed* because of a penalty.

– **dis·al·low·ance** /ˌdɪsəˈlawəns/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ *disallowance* [=*rejection*] of the tax deductions

dis·ap·pear /ˌdɪsəˈpiɚ/ *verb* **-pears**; **-peared**; **-pear·ing** [*no obj*]

1 : to stop being visible : to pass out of sight ▪ The moon *disappeared* [=*vanished*] behind a cloud. ▪ The two men *disappeared* around the corner.

2 a : to stop existing : to die or go away completely ▪ The dinosaurs *disappeared* millions of years ago. ▪ Their original enthusiasm has all but *disappeared*. [=*vanished*] ▪ These problems won't just *disappear* by themselves. **b** : to become lost : to go to a place that is not known ▪ My car keys have *disappeared* again. [=I can't find them] ▪ He *disappeared* without a trace two years ago. ▪ The speaker suddenly *disappeared* just before the beginning of the ceremony.

– **dis·ap·pear·ance** /ˌdɪsəˈpirəns/ *noun, pl* **-anc·es** [*noncount*] We're witnessing the gradual *disappearance* of an old way of life. [*count*] Police are investigating several mysterious *disappearances*.

dis·ap·point /ˌdɪsəˈpɔɪnt/ *verb* **-points**; **-point·ed**; **-point·ing** : to make (someone) unhappy by not being as good as expected or by not doing something that was hoped for or expected [+ *obj*] The team *disappointed* its fans. ▪ The show may *disappoint* some viewers. [*no obj*] The novel *disappoints* by being predictable and overly long.

– **dis·ap·point·ing** /ˌdɪsəˈpɔɪntɪŋ/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ Dinner was *disappointing*. ▪ The team had a very *disappointing* season. – **dis·ap·point·ing·ly** /ˌdɪsəˈpɔɪntɪŋli/ *adv* ▪ a *disappointingly* poor performance

dis·ap·point·ed /ˌdɪsəˈpɔɪntəd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : feeling sad, unhappy, or displeased because something was not as good as expected or because something you hoped for or expected did not happen ▪ We were *disappointed* that they couldn't go. ▪ *Disappointed* fans slowly left the ballpark. ▪ I was *disappointed* to see that my suggestions had been ignored. ▪ They were deeply *disappointed* by her lack of interest. ▪ Don't be too *disappointed* if everything doesn't go as planned.

2 : unhappy because someone has behaved badly ▪ Your father and I are very *disappointed* in/with you.

dis·ap·point·ment /ˌdɪsəˈpɔɪntmənt/ *noun, pl* **-ments**

1 [*noncount*] : the state or feeling of being disappointed ▪ She couldn't hide her *disappointment*. ▪ ***To our disappointment***, the game was rained out. [=we were disappointed that the game was rained out]

2 [*count*] : someone or something that disappoints people : a disappointing person or thing ▪ The play was a (big) *disappointment*. [=it was very disappointing] ▪ He's a *disappointment* to his parents.

dis·ap·pro·ba·tion /dɪsˌæprəˈbeɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] *formal* : DISAPPROVAL ▪ the constant *disapprobation* of critics

dis·ap·prov·al /ˌdɪsəˈpruːvəl/ *noun* [*noncount*] : lack of approval : the belief that someone or something is bad or wrong ▪ The plan met with *disapproval*. [=*opposition*] ▪ I could sense her *disapproval*. ▪ They made their *disapproval* of our behavior very clear. — opposite APPROVAL

dis·ap·prove /ˌdɪsəˈpruːv/ *verb* **-proves**; **-proved**; **-prov·ing**

1 : to believe that someone or something is bad or wrong : to not approve of someone or something [*no obj*] She married him even though her parents *disapproved*. — often + *of* ▪ She *disapproves of* smoking. ▪ Some people may *disapprove of* the government's actions. ▪ I *disapproved of* [=I disagreed with] their decision, but I said nothing against it. [+ *obj*] The word "ain't" is *disapproved* [=*criticized*] by most teachers.

2 [+ *obj*] : to officially refuse to approve or accept (something) ▪ They *disapproved* [=*rejected*] the architect's plans. ▪ The treaty was *disapproved* by the Senate. — opposite APPROVE

– **dis·ap·prov·ing** *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ She gave him a *disapproving* look. ▪ a *disapproving* frown ▪ He felt uncomfortable in the presence of his *disapproving* parents. – **dis·ap·prov·ing·ly** *adv* ▪ She shook her head *disapprovingly*.

dis·arm /dɪsˈɑɚm/ *verb* **-arms**; **-armed**; **-arm·ing**

1 a [+ *obj*] : to take weapons from (someone or something) ▪ *disarm* a prisoner ▪ The government has been unsuccessful at *disarming* the rebels. **b** [*no obj*] : to give up weapons ▪ The terrorists have refused to *disarm*. — opposite ARM

2 [+ *obj*] : to make (a bomb, mine, etc.) harmless ▪ It took more than an hour to *disarm* the bomb. — opposite ARM

3 [+ *obj*] : to make (someone) friendly or less suspicious ▪ He has a way of *disarming* [=*winning over*] his critics by flattering them. ▪ We were *disarmed* [=*charmed, captivated*] by her sense of humor.

dis·ar·ma·ment /dɪsˈɑɚməmənt/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the process of reducing the number of weapons controlled by a country's military ▪ nuclear *disarmament* — opposite ARMAMENT

disarming *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : tending to remove any feelings of unfriendliness or distrust ▪ We were all charmed by his *disarming* openness and modesty. ▪ a *disarming* smile

– **dis·arm·ing·ly** *adv* ▪ Her answers were *disarmingly* [=*surprisingly*] honest.

dis·ar·range /ˌdɪsəˈreɪnʤ/ *verb* **-rang·es**; **-ranged**; **-rang·ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to make (something) messy or untidy ▪ The wind *disarranged* my hair. ▪ His bed was *disarranged* and clothes were strewn on the floor.

dis·ar·ray /ˌdɪsəˈreɪ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a lack of order : a confused or messy condition ▪ The room was in *disarray*. ▪ The company has fallen into complete/total *disarray*.

dis·as·sem·ble /ˌdɪsəˈsɛmbəl/ *verb* **-sem·bles**; **-sembled**; **-sem·bling**

1 [+ *obj*] : to disconnect the pieces of (something) ▪ *disassemble* [=*take apart*] an engine

2 [*no obj*] : to come apart into smaller pieces ▪ The bookshelf *disassembles* for easy storage.

– **dis·as·sem·bly** /ˌdɪsəˈsɛmbli/ *noun* [*noncount*]

dis·as·so·ci·ate /ˌdɪsəˈsoʊsiˌeɪt/ *verb* **-ates**; **-at·ed**; **-at·ing** [+ *obj*] : DISSOCIATE

di·sas·ter /dɪˈzæstɚ, *Brit* dɪˈzɑːstə/ *noun, pl* **-ters**

1 [*count*] : something (such as a flood, tornado, fire, plane crash, etc.) that happens suddenly and causes much suffering or loss to many people ▪ The program examined several bridge failures and other engineering *disasters*. ▪ a nuclear *disaster* ▪ The earthquake was one of the worst ***natural disasters*** [=a disaster caused by natural forces] of this century. ▪ The state is asking for federal ***disaster relief***. [=money to help rebuild an area after a disaster]

2 a : something that has a very bad effect or result [*count*] The new regulations could be a *disaster* for smaller businesses. ▪ Opponents say the government's policy is ***a disaster waiting to happen***. [=something that will probably have a very bad or tragic result] [*noncount*] They're trying to find a way to avoid *disaster*. ▪ They narrowly escaped *disaster*. ▪ The new regulations could ***spell disaster*** [=result in serious problems] for smaller businesses. ▪ The government's policy is ***a recipe for disaster***. = The government is ***flirting with disaster*** by pursuing this policy. ▪ When ***disaster strikes***, [=when something very bad happens] we will be prepared. **b** [*count*] : a complete or terrible failure ▪ economic/financial *disasters* ▪ The dinner party was a complete *disaster*.

disaster area *noun, pl* ~ **areas** [*count*]

1 : an area where there has been a major disaster (such as a flood, tornado, or earthquake) and where people can receive special help from the government (such as money to rebuild homes or emergency supplies) ▪ After the hurricane, the state was declared a *disaster area*.

2 *informal* : a place that is very messy or dirty ▪ His office is a *disaster area*. How can he find anything in all this clutter?

di·sas·trous /dɪˈzæstrəs, *Brit* dɪˈzɑːstrəs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : causing great suffering or loss ▪ Half the city was destroyed by a *disastrous* fire.

2 : very bad or unfortunate ▪ The bad weather could have a *disastrous* effect on the area's tourism industry. ▪ His failure to back up the computer files had *disastrous* consequences. ▪ The strike was economically *disastrous*.

– **di·sas·trous·ly** *adv* ▪ a *disastrously* bad choice/idea

dis·avow /ˌdɪsəˈvaʊ/ *verb* **-avows**; **-avowed**; **-avow·ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to say that you are not responsible for (something) : to deny that you know about or are involved in (something) ▪ He *disavowed* the actions of his subordinates. ▪ She now seems to be trying to *disavow* her earlier statements.

– **dis·avow·al** /ˌdɪsəˈvawəl/ *noun, pl* **-als** [*count, noncount*]

dis·band /dɪsˈbænd/ *verb* **-bands**; **-band·ed**; **-band·ing** : to end an organization or group (such as a club) [+ *obj*] They've decided to *disband* the club. [*no obj*] The members of the organization have decided to *disband*.

– **dis·band·ment** /dɪsˈbændmənt/ *noun* [*noncount*]

dis·bar /dɪsˈbɑɚ/ *verb* **-bars**; **-barred**; **-bar·ring** [+ *obj*] : to take away the right of (a lawyer) to work in the legal profes-

sion — often used as *(be) disbarred* ▪ She *was disbarred* for unethical practices.

– **dis•bar•ment** /dɪsˈbɑɚmənt/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ The charges could lead to his *disbarment*.

dis•be•lief /ˌdɪsbəˈliːf/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a feeling that you do not or cannot believe or accept that something is true or real ▪ The initial reports were met with widespread *disbelief*. [=many people did not believe the reports] ▪ She stared at him in utter *disbelief*. ▪ If you want to enjoy this story, you have to ***suspend your disbelief***. [=allow yourself to believe things that cannot be true] — compare UNBELIEF

dis•be•lieve /ˌdɪsbəˈliːv/ *verb* **-lieves**; **-lieved**; **-liev•ing** *formal* : to not believe (someone or something) [+ *obj*] Several jurors *disbelieved* the witness's testimony. [*no obj*] — + *in* ▪ She *disbelieves in* the value of exercise.

– **disbelieving** *adj* ▪ The announcement was met with shocked and *disbelieving* silence. – **dis•be•liev•er** *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

dis•burse /dɪsˈbɚs/ *verb* **-burse**; **-bursed**; **-burs•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to pay out (money) from a fund that has been created for a special purpose ▪ The money will be *disbursed* on the basis of need. ▪ The government has *disbursed* millions of dollars in foreign aid.

– **dis•burse•ment** /dɪsˈbɚsmənt/ *noun, pl* **-ments** [*noncount*] *disbursement* of government funds [*count*] The company has made large *disbursements* for research.

disc *or* **disk** /ˈdɪsk/ *noun, pl* **discs** *or* **disks** [*count*]

1 : a flat, thin, round object ▪ a plastic *disc* ▪ a cracker topped with a thin *disk* of sausage

2 ***disk*** : a flat, thin, round object that is used to store large amounts of information (such as computer data) ▪ Insert the *disk* into the CD drive. ▪ There isn't much ***disk space*** [=room for storage on a computer disk] left. — see also DISK DRIVE, FLOPPY DISK, HARD DISK, OPTICAL DISK

3 ***disc*** **a** : CD ▪ I don't have that recording on vinyl, but I have it ***on disc***. **b** *old-fashioned* : [1]RECORD 4 — see also DISC JOCKEY

4 *medical* : one of the flat, rubbery pieces that separate the bones of the backbone — called also *intervertebral disc*; see also SLIPPED DISC

[1]dis•card /dɪˈskɑɚd/ *verb* **-cards**; **-card•ed**; **-card•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to throw (something) away because it is useless or unwanted ▪ Remove and *discard* the stems. ▪ a pile of *discarded* tires — often used figuratively ▪ Many of his original theories have been *discarded* [=*rejected*] in recent years.

2 : to remove (a playing card) from your hand in a card game ▪ She *discarded* the six of hearts.

[2]dis•card /ˈdɪsˌkɑɚd/ *noun, pl* **-cards** [*count*] : something (such as a playing card) that has been discarded

disc brake *noun, pl* ~ **brakes** [*count*] : a brake that works by two plates pressing against the sides of a disc that is connected to the center of a wheel

dis•cern /dɪˈsɚn/ *verb* **-cerns**; **-cerned**; **-cern•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to see, hear, or notice (something) with difficulty or effort ▪ We could just *discern* [=*distinguish*, *make out*] the ship through the fog.

2 : to come to know, recognize, or understand (something) ▪ The reasons behind this sudden change are difficult to *discern*. ▪ The purpose of the study is to *discern* [=*identify*] patterns of criminal behavior. ▪ unable to *discern* [=*distinguish*] right from wrong

– **dis•cern•ible** /dɪˈsɚnəbəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ There is no *discernible* difference between the original and the copy. – **dis•cern•ibly** /dɪˈsɚnəbli/ *adv* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ The original and copy aren't *discernibly* different.

discerning *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : able to see and understand people, things, or situations clearly and intelligently ▪ a *discerning* critic ▪ She has a *discerning* eye for good art.

– **dis•cern•ing•ly** *adv*

dis•cern•ment /dɪˈsɚnmənt/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the ability to see and understand people, things, or situations clearly and intelligently ▪ His lack of *discernment* led to his disastrous choice of business partners.

[1]dis•charge /dɪsˈʧɑɚʤ/ *verb* **-charg•es**; **-charged**; **-charg•ing**

1 [+ *obj*] : to allow (someone) to leave a hospital, prison, etc. ▪ She's due to be *discharged* from the hospital on Wednesday. ▪ *Discharge* the prisoners.

2 [+ *obj*] **a** : to take away the job of (someone) : to end the employment of (someone) ▪ The company illegally *discharged* [=*fired*] several union organizers. ▪ We had to *discharge* several employees last week. **b** : to end the service of (someone) in a formal or official way ▪ Thousands of soldiers were *discharged* after the war. : to release (someone) from duty ▪ The judge *discharged* the jury.

3 : to shoot or fire (a weapon) [+ *obj*] The ship *discharged* missiles against enemy targets. ▪ *discharging* a firearm [*no obj*] The gun failed to *discharge*.

4 [+ *obj*] : to allow (someone) to get out of a vehicle ▪ The bus had stopped to *discharge* [=*let off*] passengers.

5 a : to send out (a liquid, gas, or waste material) [+ *obj*] Smokestacks from the factory *discharge* [=*emit*] chemicals into the air. ▪ *discharging* pollution into a lake ▪ The wound began to *discharge* pus. [*no obj*] a river that *discharges* [=*flows*] into the ocean **b** : to send out (electricity) [+ *obj*] *discharge* electricity from a battery [*no obj*] allowing the electricity to *discharge* safely

6 [+ *obj*] *formal* **a** : to do what is required by (something) ▪ He vowed to faithfully *discharge* [=*fulfill*] the duties/responsibilities of his office. ▪ *discharging* an obligation **b** : to pay (a debt) ▪ They have failed to *discharge* their debts.

[2]dis•charge /ˈdɪsˌʧɑɚʤ/ *noun, pl* **-charg•es**

1 : the release of someone from a hospital, prison, etc. [*noncount*] The doctors approved her *discharge* from the hospital. [*count*] early hospital *discharges*

2 a : the act of firing or dismissing someone from a job [*noncount*] Several former employees are suing the company for wrongful *discharge*. [*count*] a *discharge* from employment **b** [*count*] : the act of ending a person's service to the military ▪ After his *discharge* from the military, he went to college to become a teacher. ✧ A ***dishonorable discharge*** is given to a soldier who has done something wrong and is forced to leave the military. ▪ He was court-martialed for improper conduct and left the navy with a *dishonorable discharge*. ✧ An ***honorable discharge*** is given to a soldier who has not done anything wrong and is not being forced to leave. ▪ He went to college after receiving an *honorable discharge* from the army.

3 : the act of firing a weapon [*noncount*] The damage was caused by accidental *discharge* of a hunting rifle. [*count*] a rapid *discharge* from a gun

4 a [*count*] : a liquid or gas that flows out of something ▪ a clear *discharge* from the nose and eyes ▪ nasal *discharges* **b** [*noncount*] : the movement of a liquid or gas from something ▪ The factory was charged with the illegal *discharge* of pollution into a stream. ▪ the *discharge* of pus from a wound

5 [*count*] : a flow of electricity ▪ an electrical *discharge*

6 *formal* : the act of doing what is required or of paying a debt [*noncount*] the *discharge* of debts/obligations [*count*] a *discharge* of debt

dis•ci•ple /dɪˈsaɪpəl/ *noun, pl* **-ci•ples** [*count*]

1 : someone who accepts and helps to spread the teachings of a famous person ▪ a *disciple* of Sigmund Freud

2 : one of a group of 12 men who were sent out to spread the teachings of Jesus Christ : APOSTLE

– **dis•ci•ple•ship** /dɪˈsaɪpəlˌʃɪp/ *noun* [*noncount*]

dis•ci•pli•nar•i•an /ˌdɪsəplɪˈnerijən/ *noun, pl* **-ans** [*count*] : a person who is very strict about punishing bad behavior : a person who uses discipline as a way of making sure that rules or orders are obeyed ▪ The school's principal is a strict/rigid *disciplinarian*.

dis•ci•plin•ary /ˈdɪsəplɪˌneri, *Brit* ˈdɪsəplənri/ *adj* : intended to correct or punish bad behavior : of or relating to discipline ▪ a *disciplinary* hearing ▪ taking *disciplinary* action ▪ The committee is considering *disciplinary* measures against him.

[1]dis•ci•pline /ˈdɪsəplən/ *noun, pl* **-plines**

1 [*noncount*] **a** : control that is gained by requiring that rules or orders be obeyed and punishing bad behavior ▪ The teacher has a hard time maintaining *discipline* in the classroom. **b** : a way of behaving that shows a willingness to obey rules or orders ▪ The troops were praised for their dedication and *discipline*. **c** : behavior that is judged by how well it follows a set of rules or orders ▪ poor *discipline* ▪ maintaining good *discipline* **d** : punishment for bad behavior ▪ Some parents feel that the school's principal has been too harsh in meting out *discipline*.

2 [*noncount*] : the ability to keep working at something that is difficult ▪ I tried learning the piano, but I lacked the *discipline* [=*self-discipline*] to stick with it. ▪ He doesn't have the *discipline* [=*self-control*] to stay on his diet.

3 [*count*] : an activity that is done regularly as a way of training yourself to do something or to improve your behavior ▪ Keeping a journal is a good *discipline* for a writer.

4 [*count*] : a field of study : a subject that is taught • She has received training in several academic *disciplines*.

²discipline *verb* **-plines**; **-plined**; **-plin·ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to punish (someone) as a way of making sure that rules or orders are obeyed • She was *disciplined* for misbehaving in class. • He seems unwilling or unable to *discipline* his children. • *disciplining* the troops

2 : to train (yourself) to do something by controlling your behavior • I'm trying to *discipline* myself to eat less.

– **disciplined** *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] • I'm not *disciplined* enough to exercise everyday. • We need a more *disciplined* approach if the program is to be successfully implemented. • an orderly and *disciplined* mind

disc jockey *noun, pl* ~ **-eys** [*count*] : a person who plays popular recorded music on the radio or at a party or nightclub — called also *DJ*, (*informal*) *deejay*

dis·claim /dɪs'kleɪm/ *verb* **-claims**; **-claimed**; **-claim·ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to say that you do not have (something, such as knowledge, responsibility, etc.) • The government *disclaimed* [=*disavowed*] any knowledge of his activities. • She *disclaimed* [=(less formally) *denied*] all responsibility for the accident.

dis·claim·er /dɪs'kleɪmɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a statement that is meant to prevent an incorrect understanding of something (such as a book, a movie, or an advertisement) • The documentary opens with a *disclaimer* that many of its scenes are "fictional re-creations" of real events.

dis·close /dɪs'kloʊz/ *verb* **-clos·es**; **-closed**; **-clos·ing** [+ *obj*] : to make (something) known to the public • He refused to *disclose* the source of his information. • The company has *disclosed* that it will be laying off thousands of workers later this year. • The identity of the victim has not yet been *disclosed*.

– **dis·clos·er** *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

dis·clo·sure /dɪs'kloʊʒɚ/ *noun, pl* **-sures**

1 [*noncount*] : the act of making something known : the act of disclosing something • We demand full *disclosure* of the facts.

2 [*count*] : something (such as information) that is made known or revealed : something that is disclosed • This is just the latest in a series of shocking *disclosures* [=*revelations*] about his criminal past.

dis·co /'dɪskoʊ/ *noun, pl* **-cos**

1 [*count*] : a nightclub where people dance to recorded popular music

2 [*noncount*] : a type of popular dance music

dis·col·or (*US*) *or Brit* **dis·col·our** /dɪs'kʌlɚ/ *verb* **-ors**; **-ored**; **-or·ing** : to change in color especially in a bad way [*no obj*] The fabric is guaranteed not to *discolor*. [+ *obj*] The wine stain *discolored* the rug.

– **discolored** *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] • badly *discolored* teeth

dis·col·or·a·tion /dɪs,kʌlə'reɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**

1 [*noncount*] : the act of changing color in a bad way • The medicine may cause *discoloration* [=*staining*] of the teeth.

2 [*count*] : a discolored spot or area • His shirt has a small *discoloration* [=*stain*] on the sleeve.

dis·com·fit /dɪs'kʌmfət/ *verb* **-fits**; **-fit·ed**; **-fit·ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to make (someone) confused or upset — often used as *(be) discomfited* • The governor *was* clearly *discomfited* [=*disconcerted*] by the question.

– **discomfiting** *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] • She bears a *discomfiting* resemblance to one of my old teachers. – **dis·com·fi·ture** /dɪs'kʌmfəʧɚ/ *noun* [*noncount*] • His *discomfiture* was obvious.

¹dis·com·fort /dɪs'kʌmfɚt/ *noun, pl* **-forts**

1 : an uncomfortable or painful feeling in the body [*noncount*] The patient is still experiencing some *discomfort*. [*count*] the *discomforts* of pregnancy

2 [*noncount*] : a feeling of being somewhat worried, unhappy, etc. • These new developments are being watched with *discomfort* by many of our allies.

²discomfort *verb* **-forts**; **-fort·ed**; **-fort·ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to make (someone) uncomfortable, worried, etc. — often used as *(be) discomforted* • Some audience members *were discomforted* by the graphic violence.

– **discomforting** *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] • *discomforting* questions/thoughts

dis·con·cert /ˌdɪskən'sɚt/ *verb* **-certs**; **-cert·ed**; **-cert·ing** [+ *obj*] *somewhat formal* : to make (someone) upset or embarrassed • News of his criminal past has *disconcerted* even his admirers. — often used as *(be) disconcerted* • I *was disconcerted* by her tone of voice.

– **disconcerted** /ˌdɪskən'sɚtəd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] • We were very *disconcerted* to learn that our flight had been canceled. – **disconcerting** /ˌdɪskən'sɚtɪŋ/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] • I found it *disconcerting* to be left alone in her office. • He has a *disconcerting* habit of answering a question with another question. – **dis·con·cert·ing·ly** *adv*

dis·con·nect /ˌdɪskə'nɛkt/ *verb* **-nects**; **-nect·ed**; **-nect·ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to separate (something) from something else : to break a connection between two or more things • *disconnect* a hose • The hose and faucet had been *disconnected*. — often + *from* • *Disconnect* the hose *from* the faucet.

2 a : to stop or end the supply of electricity, water, gas, etc., to (something, such as a piece of electronic equipment) • *Disconnect* the old printer and connect the new one. • The alarm system had been *disconnected*. **b** : to stop or end the supply of (electricity, water, gas, etc.) • Before starting, be sure to *disconnect* the power supply. • Our landlord threatened to *disconnect* our electricity.

3 : to end the connection to a system, network, etc., through a telephone, computer, or other device • We were talking on the phone but suddenly we got *disconnected*. • I got *disconnected* when I was surfing the Internet. [=I lost my Internet connection] — opposite CONNECT

– **dis·con·nec·tion** /ˌdɪskə'nɛkʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count*] telephone *disconnections* [*noncount*] *disconnection* from a power source

disconnected *adj*

1 : not connected to something (such as a power source) • The phone lines are all *disconnected*. • a *disconnected* television set

2 [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not having parts joined together in a logical way • Her biography reads like a series of *disconnected* stories. • a *disconnected* [=*incoherent*] speech

– **dis·con·nect·ed·ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

dis·con·so·late /dɪs'kɑ:nsələt/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* : very unhappy or sad • Campaign workers grew increasingly *disconsolate* as the results came in.

– **dis·con·so·late·ly** *adv*

¹dis·con·tent /ˌdɪskən'tɛnt/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a feeling of unhappiness or disapproval : a lack of contentment • The survey indicates public *discontent* [=*dissatisfaction*] with the current administration. • There was widespread *discontent* [=(less commonly) *discontentment*] over the court's ruling. — opposite CONTENTMENT

²discontent *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not pleased or satisfied : DISCONTENTED • Polls show that voters are growing increasingly *discontent*.

– **dis·con·tent·ment** /ˌdɪskən'tɛntmənt/ *noun* [*noncount*]

dis·con·tent·ed /ˌdɪskən'tɛntəd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not happy with your situation, position, etc. : not contented • *discontented* employees — often + *with* • She's been feeling *discontented with* life in general.

– **dis·con·tent·ed·ly** *adv*

dis·con·tin·ue /ˌdɪskən'tɪnju/ *verb* **-tin·ues**; **-tin·ued**; **-tin·u·ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to end (something) : STOP • He *discontinued* his visits to the psychiatrist. • She chose to *discontinue* her studies. — often used as *(be) discontinued* • The treatment has *been discontinued*.

2 : to stop making or offering (a product, service, etc.) • The company has announced that the current model will be *discontinued* next year. • They are planning to *discontinue* bus service between the two towns.

– **discontinued** *adj* • They're having a sale on *discontinued* models. • a *discontinued* line of products – **dis·con·tin·u·a·tion** /ˌdɪskənˌtɪnju'eɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] • the *discontinuation* of services

dis·con·ti·nu·i·ty /dɪsˌkɑ:ntə'nu:wəti, *Brit* dɪsˌkɒntə'nju:wəti/ *noun, pl* **-ties**

1 [*noncount*] : the quality or state of not being continuous : lack of continuity • There is a sense of *discontinuity* between the book's chapters.

2 [*count*] : a change or break in a process • Some patients have experienced delays or *discontinuities* [=*gaps*] in their care.

dis·con·tin·u·ous /ˌdɪskən'tɪnjəwəs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not continuous : having interruptions or gaps • *discontinuous* sleep • a *discontinuous* series of events

dis·cord /'dɪsˌkoɚd/ *noun, pl* **-cords** *formal*

1 [*noncount*] : lack of agreement between people, ideas, etc. • marital *discord* [=*conflict*] • *discord* between political parties •

The city has long been known as a scene of racial intolerance and *discord*.

2 : an unpleasant combination of musical notes [*count*] The song ends on a *discord*. [*noncount*] musical *discord*

dis•cord•ant /dɪs'koəd̩nt/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : harsh or unpleasant in sound ▪ *discordant* music

2 : not agreeing : not in harmony ▪ She has the difficult task of bringing together a number of *discordant* elements. ▪ *discordant* opinions ✧ To ***strike/sound a discordant note*** means to express an opinion that disagrees with what other people are saying. ▪ Most reviewers loved the show, but one critic *struck a discordant note*, finding it "trite and predictable."

dis•co•theque /ˌdɪskə'tɛk/ *noun, pl* **-theques** [*count*] : DISCO 1

[1]dis•count /'dɪsˌkaʊnt/ *noun, pl* **-counts** [*count*] : an amount taken off a regular price : a price reduction ▪ The store offers a two percent *discount* when customers pay in cash. ▪ We were able to buy our tickets ***at a discount*** [=for less than the usual price]

[2]discount *adj, always used before a noun*

1 : selling goods or services at reduced prices ▪ a *discount* store/chain/retailer ▪ *discount* airlines

2 : offered or sold at a reduced price ▪ *discount* tickets

3 : cheaper than usual ▪ *discount* prices/rates

[3]discount *verb* **-counts; -count•ed; -count•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 a : to lower the amount of (a bill, price, etc.) ▪ The vacation plan included a *discounted* price/rate on our hotel room. **b** : to lower the price of (a product) ▪ Car dealers are heavily *discounting* last year's unsold models.

2 a : to think of (something) as having little importance or value ▪ You shouldn't *discount* [=*minimize*] the importance of studying. **b** : to believe that (something, such as information, a rumor, etc.) is not worth serious attention ▪ We can't *discount* [=*dismiss*, *disregard*] the possibility that the economy will worsen in the near future. ▪ These threats cannot be entirely *discounted*.

dis•cour•age /dɪ'skɚɪdʒ/ *verb* **-ag•es; -aged; -ag•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to make (someone) less determined, hopeful, or confident ▪ Try not to let losing *discourage* you. — often used *(be/get) discouraged* ▪ We *were discouraged* by their lack of enthusiasm. ▪ Students may *get discouraged* by activities that are too advanced.

2 a : to make (something) less likely to happen ▪ The area's dry climate *discourages* agriculture. ▪ He claims the new regulations will *discourage* investment. **b** : to try to make people not want to do (something) ▪ The purpose of the law is to *discourage* [=*deter*] speeding. ▪ That type of behavior ought to be *discouraged*. ✧ To ***discourage (someone) from doing*** (something) is to tell or advise someone not to do something. ▪ His parents *discouraged him from watching* too much television. [=told him he should not watch too much television] ▪ They *discouraged her from going*. [=they told her why she should not go] — opposite ENCOURAGE

– **discouraged** *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ The team's losing streak has left many fans feeling hopeless and *discouraged*. [=*downhearted*, *disheartened*]

dis•cour•age•ment /dɪ'skɚɪdʒmənt/ *noun, pl* **-ments**

1 [*noncount*] : the act of making something less likely to happen or of making people less likely to do something ▪ the *discouragement* of drug use among teenagers ▪ He joined the army despite *discouragement* from his parents. [=despite being discouraged from joining by his parents]

2 [*noncount*] : a feeling of having lost hope or confidence ▪ She expressed *discouragement* over the difficulty of finding a good job. ▪ The team's losses have left fans with a feeling of *discouragement*.

3 [*count*] : something (such as a failure or difficulty) that discourages someone ▪ He says that the tax is a *discouragement* to doing business in this state. ▪ Despite the *discouragements* of the past week, we need to continue moving forward.

discouraging *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : causing loss of hope or confidence ▪ The team suffered another *discouraging* loss. ▪ The latest test results were very *discouraging*. — opposite ENCOURAGING

– **dis•cour•ag•ing•ly** *adv* ▪ *discouragingly* expensive

[1]dis•course /'dɪsˌkoəs/ *noun, pl* **-cours•es** *formal*

1 [*noncount*] : the use of words to exchange thoughts and ideas ▪ It's a word that doesn't have much use in ordinary *discourse*. [=*conversation*] ▪ He likes to engage in lively *discourse* with his visitors. ▪ public/political *discourse*

2 [*count*] : a long talk or piece of writing about a subject ▪ She delivered an entertaining *discourse* on the current state of the film industry.

[2]dis•course /dɪ'skoəs/ *verb* **-cours•es; -coursed; -cours•ing** [*no obj*] *formal* : to talk about something especially for a long time ▪ She could *discourse* for hours on/about almost any subject.

dis•cour•te•ous /dɪs'kɚtijəs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* : rude or impolite : not showing good manners ▪ The waiter was *discourteous* to me. ▪ It was thoughtless and *discourteous* to leave us waiting so long. — opposite COURTEOUS

– **dis•cour•te•ous•ly** *adv* ▪ They treated us *discourteously*.

– **dis•cour•te•ous•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

dis•cour•te•sy /dɪs'kɚtəsi/ *noun, pl* **-sies** *formal*

1 [*noncount*] : rude or impolite behavior ▪ They've received many complaints about customers being treated with disrespect and *discourtesy*. [=*rudeness*]

2 [*count*] : a rude act ▪ His tardiness was just another in a series of small *discourtesies*.

dis•cov•er /dɪ'skʌvɚ/ *verb* **-ers; -ered; -er•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to see, find, or become aware of (something) for the first time ▪ Christopher Columbus *discovered* the New World in 1492. ▪ Several new species of plants have recently been *discovered*. ▪ Scientists claim to have *discovered* [=*found*] a new way of controlling high blood pressure. ▪ It took her several weeks to *discover* the solution. ▪ His life was never the same after he *discovered* sailing. [=after he first went sailing; after he found how much he enjoyed sailing]

2 : to show the presence of (something hidden or difficult to see) : to make (something) known ▪ The autopsy *discovered* [=*revealed*, *uncovered*] traces of poison in the victim's blood. ▪ The tests have *discovered* problems in the current design.

3 : to learn or find out (something surprising or unexpected) ▪ I was surprised to *discover* [=*realize*] that I had lost my keys. ▪ She soon *discovered* what had been going on.

4 : to find out about and help (a talented new performer, writer, etc.) ▪ During her career she was responsible for *discovering* many now famous musicians.

– **dis•cov•er•er** *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] ▪ The species is named for its *discoverer*.

dis•cov•ery /dɪ'skʌvəri/ *noun, pl* **-er•ies**

1 : the act of finding or learning something for the first time : the act of discovering something [*count*] Scientists announced the *discovery* of a new species of plant. ▪ Her research led to a number of important *discoveries* about the disease. ▪ Reporters made the shocking *discovery* that the governor had been unfaithful to his wife. ▪ the *discovery* of pollution in the river ▪ the *discovery* of a talented musician [*noncount*] voyages of *discovery* [=voyages that are done to discover and learn about new places, people, etc.] ▪ sailors during the age of *discovery*

2 [*count*] : something seen or learned for the first time : something discovered ▪ recent archaeological *discoveries* ▪ It was one of the most important *discoveries* in the history of medicine.

[1]dis•cred•it /dɪs'krɛdət/ *verb* **-its; -it•ed; -it•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to cause (someone or something) to seem dishonest or untrue ▪ The prosecution *discredited* the witness by showing that she had lied in the past. ▪ Many of his theories have been thoroughly *discredited*.

2 : to damage the reputation of (someone) ▪ an attempt to *discredit* the governor

– **dis•cred•it•able** /dɪs'krɛdətəbəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ *discreditable* conduct – **dis•cred•it•ably** /dɪs'krɛdətəbli/ *adv*

[2]discredit *noun* [*noncount*] : loss of reputation or respect — often used with *bring* ▪ His criminal activities *brought discredit* on/upon/to his family. ▪ This scandal has *brought* the whole enterprise into lasting *discredit*. ✧ Something that is ***to your discredit*** causes people to have a less favorable opinion of you. ▪ *To our discredit*, we failed to offer help when it was most needed.

dis•creet /dɪ'skri:t/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 — used to suggest that someone is being careful about not allowing something from being known or noticed by many people ▪ a *discreet* way to handle the problem ▪ She was always very *discreet* about her personal life. ▪ He made *discreet* inquiries about the job. ▪ He maintained a *discreet* silence. — opposite INDISCREET

2 : not likely to be seen or noticed by many people ▪ A photographer followed the bride and groom at a *discreet* [=*unobtrusive*] distance.

Do not confuse *discreet* with *discrete*.

– **dis•creet•ly** *adv* ▪ a letter *discreetly* hidden in the pages of an old book

dis•crep•an•cy /dɪ'skrɛpənsi/ *noun, pl* **-cies** : a difference especially between things that should be the same [*count*] *Discrepancies* in the firm's financial statements led to an investigation. ▪ There were *discrepancies* between their accounts of the accident. [*noncount*] There is some *discrepancy* [=*disagreement*] between the results of the two studies.

dis•crete /dɪ'skri:t/ *adj, formal* : separate and different from each other ▪ The process can be broken down into a number of *discrete* [=*separate, individual*] steps.

Do not confuse *discrete* with *discreet*.

– **dis•crete•ly** *adv*

dis•cre•tion /dɪ'skrɛʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 : the right to choose what should be done in a particular situation ▪ Each artist in the gallery has *discretion* over the price that will be charged for his or her work. ▪ The coach ***used/exercised his own discretion*** to let the injured quarterback play. ▪ The amount each person contributes will be ***left to the discretion of*** the individual. [=each person will decide how much he or she will contribute] ▪ Because of the violence in the movie, ***parental discretion*** is advised. [=parents are advised to think about whether or not they want their children to see the movie] ✧ Something that is done ***at your discretion*** is done if, how, when, etc., you choose to do it. ▪ You can cancel the service *at your (own) discretion*. [=you can cancel the service whenever you choose] ▪ Exactly how much to tip a server is ***at the discretion of*** the customer.

2 : the quality of being careful about what you do and say so that people will not be embarrassed or offended : the quality of being discreet ▪ He always uses care and *discretion* when dealing with others. ▪ She handled the awkward situation with great *discretion*. ▪ She is ***the soul of discretion***. [=she is very discreet] — opposite INDISCRETION

discretion is the better part of valor — used to say that it is better to be careful than to do something that is dangerous and unnecessary

dis•cre•tion•ary /dɪ'skrɛʃəˌneri, *Brit* dɪ'skrɛʃənri/ *adj*

1 : available to be used when and how you decide ▪ She has enough ***discretionary income*** [=income that is left after paying for things that are essential, such as food and housing] to pay for a nice vacation each year.

2 : done or used when necessary ▪ the governor's *discretionary* power

dis•crim•i•nate /dɪ'skrɪməˌneɪt/ *verb* **-nates**; **-nat•ed**; **-nat•ing**

1 [*no obj*] : to unfairly treat a person or group of people differently from other people or groups ▪ The school is not allowed to *discriminate*. ▪ It is illegal to *discriminate* on the grounds/basis of race/sex. [=it is illegal to treat someone differently because of his or her race/sex] — often + *against* ▪ The firm *discriminated against* him because of his race.

2 *somewhat formal* : to notice and understand that one thing is different from another thing : to recognize a difference between things [+ *obj*] He is old enough to *discriminate* [=*distinguish, tell*] right from wrong. ▪ I can *discriminate* [=*differentiate*] the individual voices in the choir. [*no obj*] — often + *among* or *between* ▪ He could *discriminate among* the birds by their calls. ▪ She can *discriminate between* ripe and unripe fruit by smell alone.

discriminating *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *approving* : liking only things that are of good quality : able to recognize the difference between things that are of good quality and those that are not ▪ a *discriminating* audience ▪ Those with more *discriminating* [=*discerning*] tastes are likely to find the movie dull and clichéd.

dis•crim•i•na•tion /dɪˌskrɪmə'neɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**

1 [*noncount*] : the practice of unfairly treating a person or group of people differently from other people or groups of people ▪ racial/sexual/religious *discrimination* = *discrimination* based on race/sex/religion = *discrimination* on the basis of race/sex/religion ▪ The law prohibits *discrimination* in hiring. ▪ He sued the company for age *discrimination*. ▪ blatant forms of *discrimination* — often + *against* ▪ Company policy does not allow *discrimination against* women.

2 [*noncount*] *formal* **a** : the ability to recognize the difference between things that are of good quality and those that are not ▪ Those with more *discrimination* [=*discernment*] are likely to find the movie dull and clichéd. **b** : the ability to understand that one thing is different from another thing ▪ the animal's impressive scent/visual *discrimination*

3 [*count*] : a difference that is understood or recognized ▪ He was able to ***make discriminations*** among/between the birds by their calls. [=able to distinguish the birds by their calls]

dis•crim•i•na•to•ry /dɪ'skrɪmənəˌtorɪ, *Brit* dɪ'skrɪmənətri/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : not fair : unfairly treating a person or group of people differently from other people or groups of people ▪ The law prohibits *discriminatory* hiring practices. ▪ *discriminatory* treatment of minorities

dis•cur•sive /dɪ'skəsɪv/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *formal* : talking or writing about many different things in a way that is not highly organized ▪ The instructor gave a *discursive* [=*rambling*] lecture that wandered from one topic to another. ▪ *discursive* prose

– **dis•cur•sive•ly** *adv* ▪ He writes *discursively*.

dis•cus /'dɪskəs/ *noun, pl* **-cus•es**

1 [*count*] : a heavy flat round object that people throw as far as they can as a sport ▪ a *discus* thrower

2 ***the discus*** : an athletic event in which people compete by trying to throw a discus farther than everyone else ▪ winner of *the discus*



discus

dis•cuss /dɪ'skʌs/ *verb* **-cuss•es**; **-cussed**; **-cus•sing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to talk about (something) with another person or group ▪ She *discussed* the plan with several colleagues. ▪ They held a meeting to *discuss* the future of the company. ▪ We'll *discuss* where to meet later. ▪ Have you *discussed* the matter with your family?

2 : to give information, ideas, opinions, etc., about (something) in writing or speech ▪ In the first chapter, the author *discusses* childcare issues. ▪ The article *discusses* the theory in depth.

dis•cus•sion /dɪ'skʌʃən/ *noun, pl* **-sions**

1 : the act of talking about something with another person or a group of people : a conversation about something [*count*] The class was involved in a heated *discussion* about politics. ▪ I hope to ***have a discussion*** with them about the matter soon. [*noncount*] After much *discussion* of the plan, the idea was rejected entirely. ▪ She usually has an opinion about whatever subject/topic/issue is ***under discussion***. [=being talked about] ▪ During the period *under discussion*, the town grew in size. ▪ The smoking ban is a major ***topic of discussion*** these days. ▪ The proposal is ***up for discussion*** [=the proposal will be talked about] at today's meeting.

2 [*count*] : a speech or piece of writing that gives information, ideas, opinions, etc., about something ▪ The article is an in-depth *discussion* of his theories. ▪ The first chapter includes a *discussion* of childcare issues.

[1]dis•dain /dɪs'deɪn/ *noun* [*singular*] : a feeling of strong dislike or disapproval of someone or something you think does not deserve respect ▪ He glared at the waiter with a look of *disdain* [=*contempt, scorn*] on his face. ▪ He regarded their proposal with *disdain*. ▪ I have a healthy *disdain* for companies that mistreat their workers.

[2]disdain *verb* **-dains**; **-dained**; **-dain•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal*

1 : to strongly dislike or disapprove of (someone or something) ▪ They *disdained* him for being weak. ▪ teenagers who *disdain* [=*loathe, detest*] authority ▪ a critic who *disdains* [=*abhors, hates*] all modern art ▪ She *disdains* gambling.

2 : to refuse *to do* (something) because of feelings of dislike or disapproval ▪ She *disdained to answer* their questions.

dis•dain•ful /dɪs'deɪnfəl/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *somewhat formal* : felling strong dislike or disapproval for something or someone you think does not deserve respect : feeling or showing disdain ▪ He looked at the waiter with a *disdainful* glare. ▪ a *disdainful* attitude toward authority — often + *of* ▪ a critic who is *disdainful of* all modern art

– **dis•dain•ful•ly** *adv* ▪ He glared *disdainfully* at the waiter.

dis•ease /dɪ'zi:z/ *noun, pl* **-eas•es**

1 : an illness that affects a person, animal, or plant : a condition that prevents the body or mind from working normally [*count*] infectious/contagious *diseases* ▪ He suffers from a rare genetic *disease*. ▪ a deadly/debilitating *disease* ▪ a *disease* of the mind/kidneys ▪ *diseases* of poultry [*noncount*] Thousands die of heart *disease* each year. ▪ They are working to

stop the spread of *disease* in rural areas. ▪ gum/liver *disease*

2 [*count*] : a problem that a person, group, organization, or society has and cannot stop ▪ The article cites intolerance as one of the most dangerous of society's *diseases*. ▪ He sees crime as a *disease* that too often plagues the poor and disadvantaged.

– **dis•eased** /dɪˈziːzd/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] ▪ She removed the *diseased* tree limbs. ▪ *diseased* cells/lungs/plants ▪ a *diseased* mind

dis•em•bark /ˌdɪsəmˈbɑɚk/ *verb* **-barks**; **-barked**; **-bark•ing**

1 [*no obj*] : to leave a ship or airplane ▪ The plane's crew members were the last ones to *disembark*. ▪ Passengers *disembarked* [=*debarked*] from the ship. — opposite EMBARK

2 [+ *obj*] : to remove (something or someone) from a ship or airplane ▪ They *disembarked* [=(more commonly) *unloaded*] the cargo at the dock.

– **dis•em•bar•ka•tion** /dɪsˌɛmˌbɑɚˈkeɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*]

dis•em•bod•ied /ˌdɪsəmˈbɑːdid/ *adj*

1 : not having a body ▪ *disembodied* spirits : not attached to a body ▪ a *disembodied* head

2 : coming from a person who cannot be seen ▪ We heard *disembodied* voices coming over the speakers.

dis•em•bow•el /ˌdɪsəmˈbawəl/ *verb* **-els**; *US* **-eled** *or Brit* **-elled**; *US* **-el•ing** *or Brit* **-el•ling** [+ *obj*] : to take the stomach, intestines, etc., out of (an animal or person) : to remove the bowels of (an animal or person) ▪ The fierce cat uses its claws to *disembowel* its prey. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ Critics say that the spending cuts will *disembowel* the program.

– **dis•em•bow•el•ment** /ˌdɪsəmˈbawəlmənt/ *noun* [*noncount*]

dis•em•pow•er /ˌdɪsɪmˈpawɚ/ *verb* **-ers**; **-ered**; **-er•ing** [+ *obj*] : to cause (a person or a group of people) to be less likely than others to succeed : to prevent (a person or group) from having power, authority, or influence ▪ They have been *disempowered* by a society that believes they are intellectually inferior. ▪ *disempowered* minorities — opposite EMPOWER

– **dis•em•pow•er•ment** /ˌdɪsɪmˈpawɚmənt/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the *disempowerment* of minorities

dis•en•chant•ed /ˌdɪsɪnˈʧæntəd, *Brit* ˌdɪsɪnˈʧɑːntəd/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : no longer happy or satisfied with something ▪ *disenchanted* voters — often + *with* ▪ He became more *disenchanted* [=*dissatisfied*] *with* his job every day.

– **dis•en•chant•ment** /ˌdɪsɪnˈʧæntmənt, *Brit* ˌdɪsɪnˈʧɑːntmənt/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ voter *disenchantment* ▪ He talked about his growing *disenchantment* with his job.

dis•en•fran•chise /ˌdɪsɪnˈfrænˌʧaɪz/ *verb* **-chis•es**; **-chised**; **-chis•ing** [+ *obj*] : to prevent (a person or group of people) from having the right to vote ▪ They *disenfranchised* poor people by making property ownership a requirement for registering to vote. ▪ *disenfranchised* minorities — opposite ENFRANCHISE

– **dis•en•fran•chise•ment** /ˌdɪsɪnˈfrænˌʧaɪzmənt/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the *disenfranchisement* of minorities

dis•en•gage /ˌdɪsɪnˈgeɪʤ/ *verb* **-gag•es**; **-gaged**; **-gag•ing**

1 : to separate from someone or something [*no obj*] The two dancers moved together in a series of quick movements before *disengaging* and leaping apart. [+ *obj*] — usually + *from* ▪ I was trying to *disengage* [=*free*] myself *from* the safety harness.

2 [*no obj*] : to stop being involved with a person or group : to stop taking part in something — usually + *from* ▪ He began to *disengage* [=(more commonly) *withdraw*] *from* the family when he was 15 or so.

3 : to move (a mechanism or part of a machine) so that it no longer fits into another part [+ *obj*] Put the car in gear, and then slowly *disengage* the clutch while pressing on the gas pedal. [*no obj*] If there is a malfunction, the gears will automatically *disengage*. — opposite ENGAGE

4 *military* : to order (a group of soldiers) to stop fighting and move away from an area [+ *obj*] The government says it will gradually *disengage* [=*withdraw*] soldiers from the region. [*no obj*] Troops in the area have begun to *disengage*. [=*withdraw*]

– **dis•en•gaged** /ˌdɪsɪnˈgeɪʤd/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] ▪ She became more and more *disengaged* [=*withdrawn*] as her depression worsened. – **dis•en•gage•ment** /ˌdɪsɪnˈgeɪʤmənt/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ emotional *disengagement* [=*withdrawal*] ▪ *disengagement* of the clutch ▪ the *disengagement* of troops from the region

dis•en•tan•gle /ˌdɪsɪnˈtæŋgəl/ *verb* **-tan•gles**; **-tan•gled**; **-tan•gling** [+ *obj*]

1 : to separate (things that are twisted together or caught on one another) ▪ I can't *disentangle* [=*untangle*] the wires/hangers. — often + *from* ▪ She was trying to *disentangle* her hair *from* her necklace. — often used figuratively ▪ She finally *disentangled* herself *from* a bad relationship.

2 : to remove the twists or knots in (something) ▪ *disentangle* [=*untangle*] a knotted string/rope

– **dis•en•tan•gle•ment** /ˌdɪsɪnˈtæŋgəlmənt/ *noun* [*noncount*]

dis•equi•lib•ri•um /dɪsˌiːkwəˈlɪbrijəm/ *noun* [*singular*] *formal + technical* : a loss or lack of balance ▪ The condition is caused by a *disequilibrium* in the brain's chemistry. ▪ the *disequilibrium* of power

dis•es•tab•lish /ˌdɪsəˈstæblɪʃ/ *verb* **-lish•es**; **-lished**; **-lish•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to take away a particular church's status as the official church of a nation or state ▪ efforts to *disestablish* the Church of England

– **dis•es•tab•lish•ment** /ˌdɪsəˈstæblɪʃmənt/ *noun* [*noncount*]

[1]dis•fa•vor (*US*) *or Brit* **dis•fa•vour** /dɪsˈfeɪvɚ/ *noun* [*noncount*] *formal*

1 : a feeling of disapproval or dislike ▪ He regarded their proposal with *disfavor*. ▪ They looked with *disfavor* upon her.

2 : the condition of being disapproved of or disliked ▪ The theory has long been ***in disfavor*** [=the theory has been unpopular for a long time] ▪ The style ***fell into disfavor*** [=became unpopular] a decade ago.

[2]disfavor (*US*) *or Brit* **disfavour** *verb* **-vors**; **-vored**; **-vor•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal*

1 : to disapprove of or dislike (someone or something) ▪ Some bar owners *disfavor* [=(more commonly) *are against*] the ban on smoking.

2 : to make it more difficult for (a person, organization, etc.) to succeed or achieve something than it is for another person, organization, etc. ▪ The current laws favor large businesses and *disfavor* smaller businesses.

dis•fig•ure /dɪsˈfɪgjɚ, *Brit* dɪsˈfɪgə/ *verb* **-ures**; **-ured**; **-ur•ing** [+ *obj*] : to spoil or damage the appearance of (something or someone) ▪ His face was *disfigured* by a scar. ▪ Vandals *disfigured* [=(more commonly) *defaced*] the wall with graffiti.

– **disfigured** *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] ▪ The fire left her horribly *disfigured*. – **dis•fig•ure•ment** /dɪsˈfɪgjɚmənt/ *noun, pl* **-ments** [*count*] His *disfigurements* were caused by an accident. [*noncount*] The lifesaving operation will cause some *disfigurement*. – **disfiguring** *adj* ▪ *disfiguring* surgery

dis•gorge /dɪsˈgoɚʤ/ *verb* **-gorg•es**; **-gorged**; **-gor•ging**

1 [+ *obj*] *somewhat formal* : to empty whatever is in the stomach through the mouth ▪ The cat coughed and then *disgorged* [=(more commonly) *vomited, threw up*] a wad of hair.

2 a [+ *obj*] : to let out or release (something) ▪ We watched the airplane *disgorging* its passengers at the gate. ▪ The damaged ship *disgorged* thousands of gallons of oil into the bay.

b [*no obj*] : to flow out ▪ The river *disgorges* into the ocean just south of the city.

[1]dis•grace /dɪˈskreɪs/ *verb* **-grac•es**; **-graced**; **-grac•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to cause (someone) to feel ashamed ▪ Her behavior *disgraced* [=*shamed*] the whole family.

2 : to cause (someone or something) to lose or become unworthy of respect or approval ▪ Many feel that the mayor has *disgraced* the town government by accepting personal favors from local businesspeople. ▪ He felt he had *disgraced* himself by failing at school. — often used as *(be) disgraced* ▪ The administration *was disgraced* by the scandal.

[2]disgrace *noun*

1 [*noncount*] : the condition of feeling ashamed or of losing or becoming unworthy of respect or approval ▪ The secret was protected out of a fear of political *disgrace*. ▪ The family is enduring the *disgrace* [=*dishonor, shame*] of scandal/suicide. ▪ Many feel that the mayor has ***brought disgrace upon/on*** the town. ▪ She was forced to leave ***in disgrace***.

2 [*singular*] : something that you are or should be ashamed of ▪ His table manners are a *disgrace*. ▪ It is an absolute/utter *disgrace* [=*shame*] that the city has ignored the problem for so long. ▪ The health-care system is a national *disgrace*. ▪ ***It is no disgrace*** to be poor. [=you should not feel ashamed be-

cause you are poor] — often + *to* ▪ The politicians responsible for this scandal are a *disgrace to* their country.
– **dis•grace•ful** /dɪ'skreɪsfəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ her *disgraceful* behavior ▪ His table manners are *disgraceful*. ▪ It's *disgraceful* that the city has ignored the problem for so long. – **dis•grace•ful•ly** *adv* ▪ He behaved *disgracefully*. ▪ *disgracefully* selfish

dis•grun•tled /dɪs'grʌnt|d/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : unhappy and annoyed ▪ She has to deal with *disgruntled* customers all day. ▪ *disgruntled* employees ▪ He was *disgruntled* over the lack of recognition he received.

[1]dis•guise /də'skaɪz/ *verb* **-guis•es**; **-guised**; **-guis•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to change the usual appearance, sound, taste, etc., of (someone or something) so that people will not recognize that person or thing ▪ He tried to *disguise* his voice on the phone but I could tell it was him. ▪ She *disguised* herself in a wig and glasses. — often + *as* ▪ The journalist traveled the city *disguised as* [=dressed like; pretending to be] a beggar. ▪ She *disguised* herself *as* a musician to get into the concert hall early.
2 : to hide (something) so that it will not be seen or noticed ▪ I could not *disguise* [=*hide*] my surprise. ▪ They *disguised* [=*masked*] their true feelings. ▪ We *disguised* the fact that we were disappointed. ▪ I was aware of her ***thinly disguised*** [=poorly hidden] hostility.

[2]disguise *noun, pl* **-guis•es**
1 [*count*] : clothes or other things that you wear so that people will not recognize you ▪ He wore a *disguise* of glasses, a fake mustache, and a cap.
2 [*noncount*] : the act of changing your appearance so that people will not recognize you ▪ The famous thief is known to be a ***master of disguise***.
a blessing in disguise see BLESSING
in disguise **1** : wearing a disguise ▪ I've heard that she sometimes travels around the country *in disguise*. **2** : made to look like something else : presented as another thing ▪ He says that the new fee is really just a tax increase *in disguise*.

[1]dis•gust /dɪ'skʌst/ *noun* [*noncount*]
1 : a strong feeling of dislike for something that has a very unpleasant appearance, taste, smell, etc. ▪ He eyed the greasy food ***with disgust***. ▪ As the smell of garbage drifted through the air, she wrinkled her nose ***in disgust***.
2 : annoyance and anger that you feel toward something because it is not good, fair, appropriate, etc. ▪ He talked about his *disgust* with/at the way the news media focuses on celebrities. ▪ ***Much to the disgust of*** some listeners, the speech was interrupted several times by a few people in the audience. ▪ She shook her head ***in disgust*** when I described the scene.

[2]disgust *verb* **-gusts**; **-gust•ed**; **-gust•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to cause (someone) to have a strong feeling of dislike for something especially because it has a very unpleasant appearance, taste, smell, etc. ▪ The greasy food they were serving *disgusted* [=*repulsed*] him. ▪ She's a vegetarian because the idea of eating meat totally *disgusts* her.
2 *of something bad, unfair, improper, etc.* : to cause (someone) to feel very annoyed and angry ▪ The way the news media focuses on celebrities *disgusts* [=*revolts*] me. ▪ The photographs *disgust* some people.

disgusted *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : very annoyed or angry about something : feeling or showing disgust ▪ He's *disgusted* by all the attention people give to celebrities. ▪ He had a *disgusted* expression on his face. ▪ She was *disgusted* with herself for not knowing the answer.
– **dis•gust•ed•ly** *adv* ▪ He turned away *disgustedly* and walked out the door.

disgusting *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : so unpleasant to see, smell, taste, consider, etc., that you feel slightly sick ▪ The food was *disgusting*. [=(informally) *gross*] ▪ She finds the idea of eating meat totally *disgusting*. [=*repulsive*] ▪ a *disgusting* [=*repugnant*] photograph
2 : so bad, unfair, inappropriate, etc., that you feel annoyed and angry ▪ I think the way the news media focuses on celebrities is *disgusting*. [=*repugnant*] ▪ What a *disgusting* way to treat people.
– **dis•gust•ing•ly** /dɪ'skʌstɪŋli/ *adv* ▪ *disgustingly* greasy food ▪ *disgustingly* filthy ▪ (*informal + humorous*) a *disgustingly* good player [=an extremely good player]

[1]dish /'dɪʃ/ *noun, pl* **dish•es**
1 [*count*] **a** : a shallow container that you cook or serve food in ▪ a baking/serving *dish* [=a container used to bake/serve food] ▪ a casserole/pie *dish* [=a container used to bake a casserole/pie]; *specifically* : a shallow bowl ▪ a candy *dish* [=a container used to serve candy] ▪ the cat's food/water *dish* **b** : the food served in a dish ▪ a *dish* of strawberries ▪ a small *dish* of ice cream
2 [*count*] : food that is prepared in a particular way ▪ Each person made a *dish* for the potluck supper. ▪ The restaurant serves some of my favorite *dishes*. ▪ a fish/pasta/potato *dish* [=food that has fish/pasta/potatoes as a main ingredient] ▪ The ***main dish*** [=the biggest dish of a meal] was poached salmon, and it was served with a ***side dish*** [=a food that is served at the same time as the main dish] of spinach.
3 ***dishes*** [*plural*] : all the things (such as plates, forks, glasses, pans, cooking utensils, etc.) that are used to prepare, serve, and eat a meal ▪ We piled all the *dishes* in the sink after dinner. ▪ Will you wash the breakfast *dishes*, please? ▪ a sink full of dirty *dishes* ▪ It's your turn to ***do the dishes***. [=wash the dishes]
4 [*count*] **a** : a shallow container that holds something other than food ▪ a soap *dish* **b** : something that is shaped like a shallow bowl ▪ Do you have cable TV or a *dish*? [=an antenna shaped like a dish that receives television signals from a satellite] ▪ a *dish* antenna — see also PETRI DISH, SATELLITE DISH
5 [*singular*] *informal + old-fashioned* : a sexually attractive person ▪ I hear your cousin is a *dish*. [=*hottie*]

[2]dish *verb* **dishes**; **dished**; **dish•ing** [*no obj*] *slang* : to talk about the personal life of someone else : GOSSIP ▪ The two of them are always *dishing* about their coworkers.
dish out [*phrasal verb*] ***dish out (something)*** *also* ***dish (something) out*** *informal* **1** : to serve (food) ▪ The restaurant *dishes out* more than 500 meals every night. **2** : to give (something) freely or in large amounts ▪ She *dishes out* advice to anyone who'll listen. ▪ He's always *dishing out* money and gifts to his grandchildren. **3** ***dish it out*** : to criticize other people ▪ He can *dish it out*, but he can't take it. [=he likes to criticize other people, but he doesn't like being criticized]
dish (the) dirt see DIRT
dish up [*phrasal verb*] ***dish up (something)*** *also* ***dish (something) up*** *informal* : to put (food) into a dish or dishes for serving or eating ▪ *dish up* some soup — sometimes used figuratively ▪ The movie *dishes up* [=*serves up*] a wild mix of sex and violence.

dis•har•mo•ny /dɪs'hɑɚməni/ *noun* [*noncount*] *somewhat formal* : lack of agreement that often causes unhappiness or trouble ▪ a period of *disharmony* [=*discord*] between the two groups ▪ Money problems are often a source of marital *disharmony*. [=*strife*]
– **dis•har•mo•ni•ous** /ˌdɪsˌhɑɚ'moʊnijəs/ *adj* ▪ a *disharmonious* relationship

dish•cloth /'dɪʃˌklɑːθ/ *noun, pl* **-cloths** [*count*] : a cloth that is used for washing dishes — called also (*US*) *dish rag*

dish detergent *noun, pl* ~ **-gents** [*count, noncount*] *US* : liquid soap that is used for washing dishes — called also (*US*) *dishwashing detergent*, (*US*) *dishwashing liquid*, (*Brit*) *washing-up liquid*

dis•heart•en /dɪs'hɑɚtn̩/ *verb* **-ens**; **-ened**; **-en•ing** [+ *obj*] : to cause (a person or group of people) to lose hope, enthusiasm, or courage : to discourage (someone) ▪ The conflict between their families *disheartened* them. — often used as *(be) disheartened* ▪ I *was disheartened* by the news.
– **disheartened** *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ I felt very *disheartened*. – **disheartening** *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ a *disheartening* failure ▪ It was *disheartening* to hear the news. – **dis•heart•en•ing•ly** *adv*

di•shev•eled *(US) also Brit* **di•shev•elled** /dɪ'ʃɛvəld/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not neat or tidy ▪ His wrinkled suit gave him a *disheveled* appearance. ▪ *disheveled* hair ▪ They looked dirty and *disheveled*.

dis•hon•est /dɪs'ɑːnəst/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not honest: such as **a** : saying or likely to say things that are untrue ▪ I think he is being *dishonest* [=*untruthful*] about what he knows. ▪ a *dishonest* car dealer **b** : containing information that is untrue ▪ *dishonest* advertising ▪ She gave *dishonest* answers to our questions. **c** : used to deceive someone ▪ *dishonest* [=*deceitful*] business practices
– **dis•hon•est•ly** *adv* ▪ I think she answered our questions *dishonestly*. ▪ They have been running their business *dishonestly*.

dis•hon•es•ty /dɪs'ɑːnəsti/ *noun* [*noncount*] : lack of honesty : the quality of being untruthful or deceitful ▪ *dishonesty*

D

in advertising ▪ Are you accusing him of *dishonesty*? ▪ her *dishonesty* about what happened

[1]dis•hon•or (*US*) *or Brit* **dis•hon•our** /dɪs'ɑːnɚ/ *noun* [*noncount*] *somewhat formal* : loss or lack of honor : damage to your reputation and loss of respect from other people ▪ warriors who choose death before *dishonor* ▪ She found it difficult to endure the *dishonor* [=*disgrace*] of being involved in a scandal. ▪ He is afraid that his confession will ***bring dishonor on/upon*** the family. ▪ ***There's no dishonor in*** doing manual labor. [=doing manual labor does not make you unworthy of respect]

[2]dishonor (*US*) *or Brit* **dishonour** *verb* **-ors**; **-ored**; **-or•ing** [+ *obj*] *somewhat formal*

1 : to cause (someone or something) to lose honor : to cause (someone or something) to no longer be respected ▪ His actions *dishonored* [=brought dishonor on] the family. ▪ Quitting now would *dishonor* [=*disgrace*] the memory of our predecessors.

2 : to fail to do what is required by (a promise, contract, etc.) : to fail to honor (something) ▪ She *dishonored* her oath of office.

3 *of a bank* : to refuse to give out the money promised by (a check) ▪ The bank *dishonored* my check. ▪ a *dishonored* check

dis•hon•or•able (*US*) *or Brit* **dis•hon•our•able** /dɪs'ɑːnərəbəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not deserving honor or respect : not morally or socially acceptable ▪ His *dishonorable* behavior has shamed the family. ▪ *dishonorable* [=*shameful*] conduct ▪ Her military career ended with a ***dishonorable discharge***. [=she was forced to leave the military because of unacceptable behavior] — opposite HONORABLE

– **dis•hon•or•ably** (*US*) *or Brit* **dis•hon•our•ably** /dɪs'ɑːnərəbli/ *adv* ▪ He behaved *dishonorably*.

dish•pan /'dɪʃˌpæn/ *noun, pl* **-pans** [*count*] *US* : a large usually plastic container with a flat bottom that holds water to wash dishes in

dishpan hands *noun* [*plural*] *chiefly US* : hands that are red, rough, and sore because of washing a lot of dishes

dish rack *noun, pl* ~ **racks** [*count*] *US* : a rack that you place dishes on so they can dry — see picture at KITCHEN

dish•rag /'dɪʃˌræg/ *noun, pl* **-rags** [*count*] *US* : DISHCLOTH

dish towel *noun, pl* ~ **-els** [*count*] *US* : a cloth that is used for drying dishes — called also (*Brit*) *tea cloth*, (*chiefly Brit*) *tea towel*; see picture at KITCHEN

dish•ware /'dɪʃˌweɚ/ *noun* [*noncount*] *chiefly US* : plates, bowls, cups, etc., that are usually part of a set

dish•wash•er /'dɪʃˌwɑːʃɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

1 : a person whose job is to wash dishes in a restaurant

2 : a machine that is used to wash dishes — see picture at KITCHEN

– **dish•wash•ing** /'dɪʃˌwɑːʃɪŋ/ *adj* ▪ *dishwashing* soap

dishwashing detergent *noun, pl* ~ **-gents** [*count, noncount*] *US* : DISH DETERGENT

dishwashing liquid *noun, pl* ~ **-quids** [*count, noncount*] *US* : DISH DETERGENT

dish•wa•ter /'dɪʃˌwɑːtɚ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : water in which dishes have been or are going to be washed

(as) dull as dishwater *US, informal* : very boring or dull ▪ The conversation was *as dull as dishwater*. [=(*Brit*) *as dull as ditchwater*]

like dishwater *informal* : having very little flavor — used to describe soups or drinks ▪ This coffee is *like dishwater*!

dishy /'dɪʃi/ *adj* **dish•i•er**; **-est** *informal*

1 : sexually attractive ▪ a *dishy* actor

2 *US* : containing gossip or information about a usually famous person's private life ▪ a *dishy* new biography

dis•il•lu•sion /ˌdɪsə'luːʒən/ *verb* **-sions**; **-sioned**; **-sion•ing** [+ *obj*] : to cause (someone) to stop believing that something is good, valuable, true, etc. ▪ Working at that store for six months was enough to *disillusion* me about retail work.

– **disillusion** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ His *disillusion* [=*disillusionment*] with the job was obvious. – **disillusioning** *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ a very *disillusioning* experience – **dis•il•lu•sion•ment** /ˌdɪsə'luːʒənmənt/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ *Disillusionment* with the city government grew as conditions worsened.

disillusioned *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : having lost faith or trust in something : disappointed that something is not as good, valuable, true, etc., as it had seemed ▪ a *disillusioned* journalist — often + *with* ▪ She became more and more *disillusioned with* politics.

dis•in•cen•tive /ˌdɪsɪn'sɛntɪv/ *noun, pl* **-tives** [*count*] : something that causes or that could cause a person to decide not to do something ▪ We considered volunteering, but the complicated application process was a *disincentive*. ▪ The complicated application process was a *disincentive* to volunteering our time. — opposite INCENTIVE

dis•in•cli•na•tion /dɪsˌɪnklə'neɪʃən/ *noun* [*singular*] *formal* : a feeling of not wanting to do something : a tendency to avoid a particular activity — usually followed by *to* + *verb* ▪ Her *disinclination* [=*reluctance*] *to talk* about her past made them all the more curious. — sometimes + *for* ▪ a *disinclination for* [=*dislike of*] outdoor work

dis•in•clined /ˌdɪsɪn'klaɪnd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* : not wanting to do something : not inclined to do something — usually followed by *to* + *verb* ▪ I'm *disinclined* [=*reluctant*] *to accept* her explanation. ▪ He seemed *disinclined* [=*hesitant*] *to take part* in the discussion.

dis•in•fect /ˌdɪsɪn'fɛkt/ *verb* **-fects**; **-fect•ed**; **-fect•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to clean (something) especially by using a chemical substance that kills all germs and bacteria ▪ Chemicals were added to *disinfect* the water. ▪ The wound needs to be *disinfected*. ▪ a clean, *disinfected* knife

2 *computers* : to remove a virus from (a computer) by using a special program

– **dis•in•fec•tion** /ˌdɪsɪn'fɛkʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ methods of water *disinfection*

dis•in•fect•ant /ˌdɪsɪn'fɛktənt/ *noun, pl* **-ants** : a chemical substance that is used to kill harmful germs and bacteria : a substance that disinfects something [*count*] They use a strong *disinfectant* on the medical equipment. [*noncount*] a bottle of *disinfectant* ▪ Clean the area with *disinfectant*.

dis•in•for•ma•tion /dɪsˌɪnfɚ'meɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] : false information that is given to people in order to make them believe something or to hide the truth ▪ The government used *disinformation* to gain support for the policy. ▪ a campaign of *disinformation* = a *disinformation* campaign — compare MISINFORMATION

dis•in•gen•u•ous /ˌdɪsɪn'ʤɛnjəwəs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* : not truly honest or sincere : giving the false appearance of being honest or sincere ▪ Her recent expressions of concern are self-serving and *disingenuous*. ▪ a *disingenuous* response — compare INGENUOUS

– **dis•in•gen•u•ous•ly** *adv* ▪ He claims *disingenuously* to have supported the plan from the beginning. – **dis•in•gen•u•ous•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

dis•in•her•it /ˌdɪsɪn'herət/ *verb* **-its**; **-it•ed**; **-it•ing** [+ *obj*] : to prevent (someone, such as your daughter or son) from having the legal right to receive your money or property after you die ▪ She threatened to *disinherit* her son and leave him penniless.

dis•in•te•grate /dɪs'ɪntəˌgreɪt/ *verb* **-grates**; **-grat•ed**; **-grat•ing** : to break apart into many small parts or pieces [*no obj*] The old iron hinge rusted and eventually *disintegrated* [=*crumbled*] into dust. ▪ The paper will *disintegrate* if it gets wet. — often used figuratively ▪ Their relationship gradually *disintegrated*. ▪ With the rise of nationalism, the colonial empires began to *disintegrate*. [+ *obj*] The laser can *disintegrate* most kinds of rock.

– **dis•in•te•gra•tion** /dɪsˌɪntə'greɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*]

dis•in•ter /ˌdɪsɪn'tɚ/ *verb* **-ters**; **-terred**; **-ter•ring** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to take (a body) out of a grave or tomb : to dig up (a body) ▪ The body was *disinterred* for further study. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ *disinter* an old manuscript

dis•in•ter•est /dɪs'ɪntrəst/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 : lack of interest ▪ His proposal was met with complete *disinterest*. — often + *in* ▪ Their *disinterest in* politics is obvious.

2 : the quality or state of not being influenced by personal feelings, opinions, or concerns ▪ The jurors must look at the facts of the case with complete *disinterest*. [=*objectivity, impartiality*]

dis•in•ter•est•ed /dɪs'ɪntrəstəd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : not influenced by personal feelings, opinions, or concerns ▪ A *disinterested* [=*unbiased, impartial*] third party mediated the dispute. ▪ the *disinterested* pursuit of truth

2 : having no desire to know about a particular thing : not interested — often + *in* ▪ They are obviously *disinterested* [=*uninterested*] *in* politics. ✧ This sense is commonly used but some people consider it to be incorrect and say that "uninterested" should be used instead.

– **dis•in•ter•est•ed•ly** *adv* ▪ observing *disinterestedly*

– **dis•in•ter•est•ed•ness** *noun* [*noncount*] • the *disinterestedness* of judges

dis•in•vest /ˌdɪsɪn'vɛst/ *verb* **-vests**; **-vest•ed**; **-vest•ing** [*no obj*] *finance* : to take your money out of an area, industry, company, etc., by selling property, shares, or stock • Several companies have *disinvested* from the country to protest its human rights policies. • *disinvesting* in real estate

– **dis•in•vest•ment** /ˌdɪsɪn'vɛstmənt/ *noun* [*noncount*] • *disinvestment* in real estate

dis•joint•ed /dɪs'ʤɔɪntəd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : lacking order and organization • She could hardly follow their *disjointed* [=*incoherent, disconnected*] conversation. • a *disjointed* narrative/book

dis•junc•tion /dɪs'ʤʌŋkʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count*] *formal* : a lack of connection between things that are related or should be connected — often + *between* • It is difficult to reconcile the *disjunction between* what he says and what he does.

dis•junc•tive /dɪs'ʤʌŋktɪv/ *adj, grammar* : showing choice or opposition • "Or" and "but" are *disjunctive* conjunctions.

– **disjunctive** *noun, pl* **-tives** [*count*] • "Or" and "but" are *disjunctives*.

dis•junc•ture /dɪs'ʤʌŋkʧɚ/ *noun, pl* **-tures** [*count*] *formal* : DISJUNCTION

disk *variant spelling of* DISC

disk drive *noun, pl* ~ **drives** [*count*] : a computer part that holds a computer disk or set of disks and that reads data from and copies data to disks

dis•kette /ˌdɪ'skɛt/ *noun, pl* **-kettes** [*count*] *computers* : FLOPPY DISK

[1]dis•like /dɪs'laɪk/ *verb* **-likes**; **-liked**; **-lik•ing** [+ *obj*] : to not like (something or someone) : to feel dislike for (something or someone) • I *dislike* basketball, but I enjoy baseball. • She *dislikes* [=she does not like] the cold weather. • He *dislikes* being interviewed. • Most people *dislike* it when they are told what to do.

[2]dislike *noun, pl* **-likes**

1 [*singular*] : a feeling of not liking or approving of something or someone — often + *of* or *for* • His *dislike of* cats was obvious. • She developed a general *dislike for* journalists. ✧ If you ***take a dislike to*** someone or something, you begin to not like that person or thing. • They *took an instant dislike to* the new neighbors.

2 [*count*] : something that you do not like, approve of, or enjoy — usually plural • among his *dislikes* • He soon knew all of her ***likes and dislikes***.

dis•lo•cate /'dɪsloʊˌkeɪt/ *verb* **-cates**; **-cat•ed**; **-cat•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 *medical* : to move (a bone) out of its normal location or position in a joint • She fell and *dislocated* her shoulder.

2 *chiefly US, formal* : to force (someone or something) to move from a place or position • The new hotel will *dislocate* several businesses. • Thousands of workers have been *dislocated* by the latest economic crisis.

3 *formal* : to cause (a business, system, etc.) to change in some major way : to stop (something) from functioning as it used to function • economies *dislocated* [=*disrupted*] by war

– **dislocated** *adj* • a *dislocated* shoulder/finger/hip/wrist • (*US*) thousands of *dislocated* workers – **dis•lo•ca•tion** /ˌdɪsloʊ'keɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count*] patients with fractures and *dislocations* • the *dislocations* of war [*noncount*] The brace will prevent recurring hip *dislocation*. • social and economic *dislocation*

dis•lodge /dɪs'lɑ:ʤ/ *verb* **-lodg•es**; **-lodged**; **-lodg•ing** [+ *obj*] : to forcefully remove (something or someone) from a place or position • The earthquake *dislodged* several boulders from the cliff. • He kicked at the stone to *dislodge* it. • The army has *dislodged* enemy forces from their stronghold.

dis•loy•al /dɪs'lojəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : failing to support or be true to someone or something : not loyal or faithful to your friends, family, country, etc. • It would be *disloyal* to abandon them. • *disloyal* employees — often + *to* • a traitor *disloyal to* his country

– **dis•loy•al•ty** /dɪs'lojəlti/ *noun* [*noncount*] • His *disloyalty* to the company led to his dismissal.

dis•mal /'dɪzməl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : showing or causing unhappiness or sad feelings : not warm, cheerful, etc. • a dark, *dismal* room • *dismal* [=*gloomy, dreary*] weather • The barren landscape looks *dismal* [=*bleak, desolate*] in winter.

2 : very bad or poor • The show was a *dismal* failure. • a *dismal* performance • The team's record is *dismal*.

– **dis•mal•ly** *adv* • The show failed *dismally*.

dis•man•tle /dɪs'mæntl̩/ *verb* **-man•tles**; **-man•tled**; **-man•tling** [+ *obj*]

1 : to take (something, such as a machine or structure) apart so that it is in separate pieces • The mechanic *dismantled* the engine to repair it. • When will they *dismantle* the old bridge? • a *dismantled* power plant

2 : to destroy (something) in an orderly way : to gradually cause (something) to come to an end • The after-school program was *dismantled* due to lack of funding. • He accuses them of trying to *dismantle* the country's legal system.

– **dis•man•tle•ment** /dɪs'mæntl̩mənt/ *noun* [*noncount*] • the *dismantlement* of the power plant – **dismantling** *noun* [*noncount*] • the *dismantling* of old factories • the *dismantling* of government programs

[1]dis•may /dɪs'meɪ/ *verb* **-mays**; **-mayed**; **-may•ing** [+ *obj*] : to cause (someone) to feel very worried, disappointed, or upset • Her choice of career *dismays* her parents. • What especially *dismayed* [=*upset, bothered*] me was that no one else protested.

– **dismayed** *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] • She was very *dismayed* to learn/discover that he was so ill. • I was *dismayed* by/at his indifference. – **dismaying** *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] • her *dismaying* indifference – **dis•may•ing•ly** /dɪs'mejɪŋli/ *adv* • *dismayingly* indifferent

[2]dismay *noun* [*noncount*] : a strong feeling of being worried, disappointed, or upset • His comments were met with cries of *dismay*. • They watched ***in dismay*** as the house burned. • Much ***to the dismay of*** her fans, she announced her retirement immediately after the book's release. • ***To my dismay***, I did not get chosen for the job. • We listened ***with dismay*** to the news of the accident.

dis•mem•ber /dɪs'mɛmbɚ/ *verb* **-bers**; **-bered**; **-ber•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to cut or tear (a body) into pieces • The victims' bodies had been *dismembered* and buried in the basement. • a *dismembered* corpse

2 *formal* : to separate (something) into smaller parts • *dismembering* a corporate empire

– **dis•mem•ber•ment** /dɪs'mɛmbɚmənt/ *noun, pl* **-ments** [*count, noncount*]

dis•miss /dɪs'mɪs/ *verb* **-miss•es**; **-missed**; **-mis•sing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to decide not to think about or consider (something or someone) • We *dismissed* his accusations. • We can't completely *dismiss* [=*discount*] the possibility that she's right. • I don't think we should *dismiss* the matter lightly. — often + *as* • His idea was *dismissed as* impractical. • For a long time they *dismissed* her *as* a silly old woman.

2 : to send (someone) away : to cause or allow (someone) to leave • The students were *dismissed* early because of the snowstorm. • Class is *dismissed*. [=the class is over and students are free to leave]

3 : to officially make (someone) leave a job : to end the employment or service of (someone) • He was *dismissed* [=*fired*] from his job. • Several employees were recently *dismissed*.

4 *law* : to officially end or stop (something, such as a legal case) • The judge *dismissed* the case/suit. • All charges were *dismissed*. [=*dropped*]

– **dis•miss•al** /dɪs'mɪsəl/ *noun, pl* **-als** [*count*] I was surprised by his *dismissal* of the idea. • A small group is protesting the *dismissals* of several employees. • the *dismissal* of the lawsuit [*noncount*] He still hopes to win his claim for unfair *dismissal*.

dis•miss•ive /dɪs'mɪsɪv/ *adj*

1 : refusing to think about or consider something or someone — usually + *of* • He was *dismissive of* my idea.

2 : showing that you do not think something or someone is worth thinking about or considering • a *dismissive* remark • a *dismissive* wave of the hand

– **dis•miss•ive•ly** *adv* • He spoke *dismissively* about the accident. • She laughed *dismissively* [=*scornfully*] when I expressed admiration for the book.

dis•mount /dɪs'maʊnt/ *verb* **-mounts**; **-mount•ed**; **-mount•ing** [*no obj*] : to get down from something (such as a horse or bicycle) • The cyclist *dismounted* and walked her bike across the street. • The gymnast *dismounted* from the parallel bars. — opposite MOUNT

– **dismount** *noun, pl* **-mounts** [*count*] • the gymnast's perfect *dismount*

dis•obe•di•ence /ˌdɪsə'bi:dijəns/ *noun* [*noncount*] : refusal or failure to obey rules, laws, etc. : a lack of obedience • The

student's *disobedience* shocked the teacher. ▪ The dog was punished for its *disobedience*. — see also CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE

dis•obe•di•ent /ˌdɪsəˈbiːdijənt/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : not doing what someone or something with authority tells you to do : refusing or failing to obey rules, laws, etc. ▪ The *disobedient* soldier was given cleanup duty. ▪ The dog was being *disobedient*. — opposite OBEDIENT
– **dis•obe•di•ent•ly** *adv*

dis•obey /ˌdɪsəˈbeɪ/ *verb* **-obeys**; **-obeyed**; **-obey•ing** : to not do what someone or something with authority tells you to do : to refuse or fail to obey rules, laws, etc. [*no obj*] If you *disobey*, you will be severely punished. [+ *obj*] The soldier *disobeyed* the general's orders. ▪ He was afraid to *disobey* his father. ▪ The driver had *disobeyed* the law.

dis•or•der /dɪsˈoɚdɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ders**
1 [*noncount*] : a confused or messy state : a lack of order or organization ▪ People who witnessed the tragedy describe a scene of *disorder* [=*chaos*] as rescuers tried to find survivors. ▪ The filing system was ***thrown into disorder*** [=was disrupted or upset] when the computer program malfunctioned. — often used with *in* ▪ His finances were *in* complete *disorder*. [=his finances were not organized] ▪ The clothes/papers were *in* (a state of) *disorder*. — opposite ORDER
2 [*noncount*] : a state or situation in which there is a lot of noise, crime, violent behavior, etc. ▪ The mayor is concerned that a rally could create/cause public *disorder*. ▪ problems of crime and social *disorder* — opposite ORDER
3 *medical* : a physical or mental condition that is not normal or healthy [*count*] A dermatologist treats *disorders* [=*diseases*] of the skin. ▪ an eating *disorder* ▪ a *disorder* of the blood = a blood *disorder* [*noncount*] Millions of people suffer from some form of personality/mental *disorder*.

dis•or•dered /dɪsˈoɚdɚd/ *adj*
1 [*more ~; most ~*] : in a confused or messy state : having a lack of order or organization ▪ The project was in a *disordered* state. ▪ The file was completely *disordered*. — opposite ORDERED
2 *medical* : not working in a normal, healthy way ▪ a *disordered* mind ▪ The child is emotionally *disordered*. [=(more commonly) *disturbed*]

dis•or•der•ly /dɪsˈoɚdɚli/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*]
1 : causing a problem especially in a public place by making a lot of noise, behaving violently, etc. ▪ Two *disorderly* [=*unruly*] persons were arrested. ▪ She was charged with being drunk and *disorderly*. ▪ He was found guilty of ***disorderly conduct***.
2 : not neat or orderly ▪ A *disorderly* [=*disordered*] pile of papers covered most of her desk.

dis•or•ga•nized *also Brit* **dis•or•ga•nised** /dɪsˈoɚgəˌnaɪzd/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : not organized: such as **a** : not arranged or planned in a particular way ▪ The meeting was very *disorganized*. **b** : not having parts arranged in a neat and effective way ▪ a *disorganized* essay ▪ a *disorganized* desk **c** : not able to keep things arranged in a neat or effective way ▪ He is very *disorganized*. ▪ *disorganized* students
– **dis•or•ga•ni•za•tion** *also Brit* **dis•or•ga•ni•sa•tion** /dɪsˌoɚgənəˈzeɪʃən, *Brit* dɪsˌɔːgəˌnaɪˈzeɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*]

dis•ori•ent /dɪsˈorijənt/ *verb* **-ents**; **-ent•ed**; **-ent•ing** [+ *obj*] : to make (someone) lost or confused ▪ Thick fog can *disorient* even an experienced hiker. — compare ORIENT
– **dis•ori•en•ta•tion** /dɪsˌorijənˈteɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ The medication may cause drowsiness and *disorientation*.
– **disoriented** *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] ▪ The patient became increasingly *disoriented* as the illness progressed. ▪ a *disoriented* hiker – **disorienting** *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] ▪ It's *disorienting* to wake up in total darkness.

dis•ori•en•tate /dɪsˈorijənˌteɪt/ *verb* **-tates**; **-tat•ed**; **-tat•ing** [+ *obj*] *chiefly Brit* : DISORIENT

dis•own /dɪsˈoʊn/ *verb* **-owns**; **-owned**; **-own•ing** [+ *obj*] : to say or decide that you will no longer be connected with, associated with, or responsible for (someone or something) ▪ Her parents threatened to *disown* her if she didn't go back to school. ▪ He was *disowned* for bringing shame to the family.

dis•par•age /dɪˈsperɪʤ/ *verb* **-ag•es**; **-aged**; **-ag•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to describe (someone or something) as unimportant, weak, bad, etc. ▪ Voters don't like political advertisements in which opponents *disparage* one another. ▪ It's a mistake to *disparage* their achievements. ▪ The article *disparaged* polo as a game for the wealthy.
– **dis•par•age•ment** /dɪˈsperɪʤmənt/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ a term of *disparagement* ▪ the author's relentless *disparagement* of politicians – **disparaging** *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] ▪ I heard her making *disparaging* remarks about her coworkers. – **dis•par•ag•ing•ly** *adv* ▪ He referred *disparagingly* to his car as "an old clunker."

dis•par•ate /ˈdɪspərət/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] *formal* : different from each other ▪ The conversation covered topics as *disparate* [=*diverse*] as fashion and biology. ▪ *disparate* cultures ▪ music that combines/blends *disparate* [=*dissimilar*] elements

dis•par•i•ty /dɪˈsperəti/ *noun, pl* **-ties** *formal* : a noticeable and often unfair difference between people or things [*count*] problems that exist when there is a *disparity* of power [=when one person, group, etc., has much more power than another] ▪ There is a great *disparity* between (the) rich and (the) poor in this country. ▪ The age *disparity* between the players is obvious. [*noncount*] the region's increasing income *disparity*

dis•pas•sion•ate /dɪsˈpæʃənət/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : not influenced or affected by emotions ▪ Journalists aim to be *dispassionate* observers. ▪ He spoke in a *dispassionate* tone about the accident.
– **dis•pas•sion•ate•ly** *adv* [*more ~; most ~*]

[1]dis•patch *also Brit* **des•patch** /dɪˈspæʧ/ *verb* **-patch•es**; **-patched**; **-patch•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to send (someone or something) quickly to a particular place for a particular purpose ▪ Rescue workers were immediately *dispatched* to the area. ▪ The hotel *dispatched* a limo to pick us up from the airport. ▪ (*formal*) The message was *dispatched* to the general.
2 : to defeat (a person or team) in a game, contest, etc. ▪ She easily *dispatched* [=(more commonly) *beat*] her opponent.
3 *old-fashioned* : to kill (a person or animal) quickly ▪ He *dispatched* the guard with one bullet.

[2]dispatch *also Brit* **despatch** *noun, pl* **-patches**
1 [*count*] : an important official message ▪ The general sent a *dispatch* to headquarters. ✧ In British English, a soldier who is ***mentioned in dispatches*** is noted for bravery.
2 [*noncount*] *somewhat formal* : the act of sending someone or something to a particular place for a particular purpose ▪ He requested the immediate *dispatch* of supplies/troops.
3 [*count*] : a news story that a reporter sends to a newspaper usually from a foreign country ▪ The reporter sent many *dispatches* from the war zone.
with dispatch *formal* : in a quick and efficient way ▪ The problem was handled *with dispatch*.

dispatch box *also* **despatch box** *noun, pl* **~ boxes** *Brit*
1 ***the Dispatch Box*** : a box on a table in the House of Commons that important government officials stand behind when speaking
2 [*count*] : a container for holding important documents

dis•patch•er /dɪˈspæʧɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *US*
1 : someone whose job is to talk by radio with people in vehicles (such as police cars, ambulances, or taxis) in order to send them to a particular place
2 : someone who is in charge of the departure of trains, airplanes, buses, trucks, etc.

dispatch rider *also Brit* **despatch rider** *noun, pl* **~ -ers** [*count*] *chiefly Brit* : someone who delivers messages or packages especially by traveling on a motorcycle

dis•pel /dɪˈspɛl/ *verb* **-pels**; **-pelled**; **-pel•ling** [+ *obj*] : to make (something, such as a belief, feeling, or idea) go away or end ▪ This report should *dispel* any doubts you have about the plan. ▪ She made an official statement to *dispel* any rumors about her retirement. ▪ The experience *dispelled* some of our fears about the process.

dis•pens•able /dɪˈspɛnsəbəl/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : not necessary or required ▪ Computers have made typewriters *dispensable*. ▪ Do you consider any of the staff to be *dispensable*? ▪ *dispensable* luxuries — opposite INDISPENSABLE

dis•pen•sa•ry /dɪˈspɛnsəri/ *noun, pl* **-ries** [*count*] : a place where medicine or minor medical treatment is given ▪ a hospital *dispensary*

dis•pen•sa•tion /ˌdɪspənˈseɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** *formal*
1 : permission to break a law or an official promise you have made : release from a rule, vow, or oath [*noncount*] The priest asked for *dispensation* from his vows. [*count*] The state gave the town a special *dispensation*, allowing it to ignore the law in this case.
2 [*singular*] : an act of providing something to people ▪ The ship's doctor handled the *dispensation* [=*distribution*] of medicine. ▪ a speedy *dispensation* [=*administration*] of justice

dis•pense /dɪ'spɛns/ *verb* **-pens•es; -pensed; -pens•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to give or provide (something) ▪ The ATM only *dispenses* $20 bills. ▪ A judge's job is to *dispense* [=*administer*] justice. ▪ a newspaper columnist who *dispenses* advice to millions of readers each week
2 : to prepare and give (medicine) ▪ Pharmacists are certified to *dispense* medication.
dispense with [*phrasal verb*] ***dispense with (something)*** *formal* **:** to no longer use or require (something) **:** to get rid of (something) ▪ Let's *dispense with* the usual introductions and get down to business. ▪ The new cleaning process will *dispense with* the need for ventilation.

dis•pens•er /dɪ'spɛnsɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]
1 : a machine or container that lets you take small amounts of something ▪ a paper towel *dispenser* ▪ a soap/tape *dispenser*
2 : a person or organization that gives or provides something to people ▪ hospitals and other health-care *dispensers* — often + *of* ▪ A teacher should be more than a *dispenser of* knowledge.

dis•perse /dɪ'spɚs/ *verb* **-pers•es; -persed; -pers•ing**
: to go or move in different directions **:** to spread apart [*no obj*] Police ordered the crowd to *disperse*. ▪ The clouds *dispersed* [=*broke*], revealing blue sky above. ▪ The fog gradually *dispersed* [=*dissipated, vanished*] as the day grew warmer. [+ *obj*] Police *dispersed* the protesters.
– dis•per•sal /dɪ'spɚsəl/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ The police are trained in crowd *dispersal*. **– dis•per•sion** /dɪ'spɚʒən/ *noun* [*noncount*] *technical* ▪ Laws were established to limit the *dispersion* of pollutants.

dis•pir•it•ed /dɪ'spirətəd/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] **:** feeling unhappy and without hope or enthusiasm ▪ The loss left the team *dispirited*. [=*disheartened, discouraged*] ▪ *dispirited* supporters — opposite SPIRITED
– dis•pir•it•ed•ly *adv* ▪ The team sat *dispiritedly* on the bench.

dis•pir•it•ing /dɪ'spirətɪŋ/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] **:** causing a loss of hope or enthusiasm ▪ It was very *dispiriting* [=*discouraging, disheartening*] to lose yet another game. ▪ a *dispiriting* failure

dis•place /dɪ'spleɪs/ *verb* **-plac•es; -placed; -plac•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to take the job or position of (someone or something) ▪ Many of the company's workers were *displaced* [=*replaced*] by machines. ▪ Some say football has *displaced* [=*replaced, supplanted*] baseball as America's national pastime.
2 a : to force (people or animals) to leave the area where they live ▪ The war has *displaced* thousands of people. ▪ The hurricane *displaced* most of the town's residents. ▪ animals *displaced* by wildfire **b** *chiefly US* **:** to remove (someone) from a job or position ▪ The closing of the factory has *displaced* many workers.
3 : to move (something) so that it is no longer in its original or regular location or position ▪ farming practices that *displace* large amounts of soil ▪ (*technical*) The ship *displaces* 20,000 tons (of water).
– displaced *adj* ▪ a crisis involving thousands of *displaced* persons/people [=people who have been forced to leave the area/country where they live]

dis•place•ment /dɪ'spleɪsmənt/ *noun, pl* **-ments**
1 : the act of displacing something: such as **a :** the act of forcing people or animals to leave the area where they live [*noncount*] The war has caused the *displacement* of thousands of people. [*count*] population *displacements* **b :** the movement of something from its original or regular position [*count*] *displacements* in the Earth's crust [*noncount*] soil *displacement* caused by farming
2 [*count*] *technical* **:** the amount of water that is moved by an object when it is placed in water — usually singular ▪ The ship has a very large *displacement*.

[1]dis•play /dɪ'spleɪ/ *verb* **-plays; -played; -play•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to put (something) where people can see it ▪ Students *displayed* their projects at the science fair. ▪ The results are *displayed* [=*shown*] on the computer screen. ▪ Toys were *displayed* in the store window. ▪ Her awards are prominently/proudly *displayed* on the mantel. ▪ The museum *displays* relics found during the excavation of the site. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ The tree *displays* pretty pink flowers in the spring.
2 : to show that you have (an emotion, quality, skill, etc.) ▪ He *displayed* no emotion when I told him the news. ▪ I was impressed by the care she *displayed* in making the flower arrangements. ▪ The children *displayed* [=*exhibited*] no interest in learning how to play the piano. ▪ The rookie player *displayed* great skill. ▪ The company has *displayed* exceptional dedication to this community.

[2]display *noun, pl* **-plays** [*count*]
1 : an arrangement of objects intended to decorate, advertise, entertain, or inform people about something ▪ Each table had a beautiful *display* of flowers. = Each table had a beautiful flower *display*. ▪ the bookstore's *display* of dictionaries = the bookstore's dictionary *display* ▪ The library's current *display* features locally made crafts. ▪ There is a *display* [=*exhibit, exhibition*] of his early paintings at the museum. ▪ Her trophies are in a *display* case/cabinet. ▪ a store's ***window display*** [=a display of products shown in a store's window]
2 : an event at which something is done or shown to impress or entertain people ▪ The celebration ended with a spectacular fireworks *display*.
3 : an action, performance, etc., which shows very clearly that you have some ability, feeling, quality, etc. — usually + *of* ▪ a *display of* anger ▪ In a remarkable *display of* generosity, the students gave the money they had raised for the class trip to their sick classmate. ▪ the soccer player's impressive *display of* footwork ▪ shocking *displays of* wealth in a country of extreme poverty ▪ He disapproved of their public *displays of* affection. [=hugging, kissing, etc., in public]
4 : an electronic device (such as a computer monitor) that shows information ▪ The computer comes with a high-resolution color *display*. ▪ The *display* showed an error message. ▪ a calculator's *display* screen
5 *biology* **:** a way of behaving that a bird or animal uses to show another bird or animal that it wants to mate, fight, etc. ▪ courtship/threat *displays*
on display **:** put somewhere for people to see **:** in a display ▪ Autographed baseballs are *on display* at the show. ▪ Only a few of the artifacts will be ***put on display***. = Only a few of the artifacts will ***go on display***.

dis•please /dɪs'pliːz/ *verb* **-pleas•es; -pleased; -pleasing** [+ *obj*] **:** to make (someone) feel unhappy or annoyed ▪ What I said obviously *displeased* her. = She was obviously *displeased* by what I said. — opposite PLEASE
– displeased *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] ▪ She looked *displeased* when I told her about it. ▪ We're very *displeased* with the delays. **– displeasing** *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] ▪ visually *displeasing* buildings

dis•plea•sure /dɪs'plɛʒɚ/ *noun* [*noncount*] **:** a feeling of unhappiness or annoyance ▪ The meeting will give people who object to the policy a chance to voice/express their *displeasure*. ▪ Fans showed their *displeasure* at the umpire's call by booing loudly.

[1]dis•pos•able /dɪ'spoʊzəbəl/ *adj*
1 : made to be used once or only a few times **:** made to be thrown away after one use or several uses ▪ *disposable* diapers/razors
2 *somewhat formal* **:** available to be used ▪ *disposable* resources/assets ▪ I don't have enough ***disposable income*** [=income that is left after paying taxes and for things that are essential, such as food and housing] to buy such luxuries.

[2]disposable *noun, pl* **-ables** [*count*] **:** something that is made to be thrown away after it is used once — usually plural ▪ Do you use cloth diapers or *disposables*? [=disposable diapers]

dis•pos•al /dɪ'spoʊzəl/ *noun, pl* **-als**
1 [*noncount*] **:** the act of disposing of something: such as **a :** the act of throwing something away ▪ trash *disposal* ▪ the *disposal* of nuclear waste **b** *law* **:** the act of giving control or ownership of land, possessions, etc., to someone ▪ the *disposal* of property
2 [*count*] *US* **:** GARBAGE DISPOSAL
at someone's disposal **:** available for someone to use ▪ We had plenty of money *at our disposal*. ▪ I'm *at your disposal*. [=I'm ready to do whatever you would like me to do] ▪ They are using every legal tool *at their disposal* to prevent the bridge from being built.

dis•pose /dɪ'spoʊz/ *verb* **-pos•es; -posed; -pos•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal*
1 : to cause (someone) to be likely to do or have something — + *to* or *toward* ▪ His upbringing *disposes* him *to* question authority. ▪ people whose genes *dispose* them *toward* a particular disease
2 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* **:** to put (someone or something) in a particular position or place ▪ The

troops/cottages were *disposed* [=(more commonly) *arranged*] along either side of the river.

dispose of [*phrasal verb*] **1** ***dispose of (something)*** **a** : to throw (something) away : to get rid of (something) ▪ The waste was not properly *disposed of*. ▪ Please *dispose of* your cigarette butts in one of the ashtrays available. **b** *formal* : to deal with and finish (something) ▪ I have some business to *dispose of* [=(less formally) *wrap up, take care of*] before we meet. **c** *law* : to give control or ownership of (land, possessions, etc.) to someone ▪ A will is a legal document that is used to *dispose of* property. **2** ***dispose of (someone or something)*** **a** : to defeat (a person or team) in a game, contest, etc. ▪ She easily *disposed of* her opponent. **b** : to kill (a person or animal) ▪ The article includes a list of the weapons the soldiers used to *dispose of* their enemies.

disposed *adj, not used before a noun, formal*

1 : wanting to do something or likely to do something ▪ Join us for dinner if you feel ***so disposed***. [=if you want to] ▪ dogs that are naturally *disposed* toward fighting — usually followed by *to* + *verb* ▪ He disagreed but was not *disposed* [=*inclined*] *to argue*. ▪ Many people seem *disposed to distrust* salespeople.

2 : feeling or thinking in a specified way about something — usually + *to* or *toward* ▪ They were favorably/unfavorably *disposed to/toward* the idea. [=they liked/disliked the idea] — see also ILL-DISPOSED, WELL-DISPOSED

dis•po•si•tion /ˌdɪspəˈzɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**

1 [*count*] : the usual attitude or mood of a person or animal ▪ He always had a cheerful/nervous *disposition*. [=*temperament, personality*] ▪ It's nice to work with someone who has such a sunny *disposition*. [=who is usually cheerful] ▪ a dog with an excellent *disposition*

2 *formal* **a** [*singular*] : a tendency to act or think in a particular way ▪ Her *disposition* was to always think negatively. ▪ He has a *disposition* toward criminal behavior. **b** [*count*] : a tendency to develop a disease, condition, etc. ▪ people with a genetic *disposition* toward a particular disease

3 *formal* : the act or power of officially or legally giving land, possessions, etc., to someone [*count*] the philanthropist's charitable *dispositions* [=(less formally) *donations*] [*noncount*] A will is a legal document that is used in the *disposition* of property.

4 [*count*] *formal* : the way things are placed or arranged — usually singular; often + *of* ▪ The map showed the *disposition of* troops on the border.

dis•pos•sess /ˌdɪspəˈzɛs/ *verb* **-sess•es**; **-sessed**; **-sess•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to take land, possessions, etc., from (someone) ▪ The land was settled by *dispossessing* the native people who lived here. — often + *of* ▪ The new regime *dispossessed* many people *of* their land.

– **dis•pos•ses•sion** /ˌdɪspəˈzɛʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*]

dispossessed *adj, always used before a noun, formal* : having had your land, possessions, etc., taken away from you ▪ The organization helps *dispossessed* people rebuild their lives.

the dispossessed : people whose land, possessions, etc., have been taken away from them ▪ helping the poor and *the dispossessed*

dis•pro•por•tion /ˌdɪsprəˈpoɚʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** *formal* : a difference that is not fair, reasonable, or expected [*count*] The author does not explain the *disproportion* [=(more commonly) *disparity*] between the value of the stones. [*noncount*] His salary is ***in disproportion to*** what people who have similar jobs earn.

– **dis•pro•por•tion•al** /ˌdɪsprəˈpoɚʃənl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ The punishment was *disproportional* [=(more commonly) *disproportionate*] to the crime. – **dis•pro•por•tion•al•ly** *adv* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

dis•pro•por•tion•ate /ˌdɪsprəˈpoɚʃənət/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : having or showing a difference that is not fair, reasonable, or expected : too large or too small in relation to something ▪ He believes that middle-class people bear a *disproportionate* share of the tax burden. ▪ A *disproportionate* number of the students are poor. — often + *to* ▪ The organization's political influence is *disproportionate to* its size.

– **dis•pro•por•tion•ate•ly** *adv* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ A *disproportionately* high number of the students are poor.

dis•prove /dɪsˈpruːv/ *verb* **-proves**; **-proved** *or chiefly US* **-prov•en** /dɪsˈpruːvən/; **-prov•ing** [+ *obj*] : to show that (something) is false or wrong ▪ *disprove* [=*refute*] an argument/claim — often used as *(be) disproved* ▪ The theory *has been disproved*. — opposite PROVE

dis•put•able /dɪˈspjuːtəbəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not yet proved or shown to be true : likely to be questioned or doubted ▪ The source of the text is *disputable*. [=*debatable*] ▪ a *disputable* claim ▪ The conclusion was based on *disputable* [=*questionable*] evidence. — opposite INDISPUTABLE

– **dis•put•ably** /dɪˈspjuːtəbli/ *adv* ▪ It's been proved *indisputably*.

dis•pu•tant /dɪˈspjuːtn̩t, *Brit* ˈdɪspjətənt/ *noun, pl* **-tants** [*count*] *formal* : a person who is involved in a dispute and especially in a legal dispute

dis•pu•ta•tion /ˌdɪspjəˈteɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** *formal* : a disagreement or argument [*count*] legal *disputations* [*noncount*] years of debate and *disputation*

– **dis•pu•ta•tious** /ˌdɪspjəˈteɪʃəs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ a *disputatious* person [=a person who often disagrees and argues with other people]

[1]dis•pute /dɪˈspjuːt/ *noun, pl* **-putes** : a disagreement or argument [*count*] They could not settle their *dispute*. ▪ legal *disputes* ▪ There is a labor *dispute* between workers and management. ▪ The two farmers are involved in a land *dispute*. ▪ a domestic *dispute* [=an argument between people who live together] — often + *over* or *about* ▪ There was a *dispute* [=*disagreement*] *over/about* what to do with the extra money. [*noncount*] There is *dispute* [=*debate*] among scholars as to the source of the text. = The source of the text is a matter/subject of *dispute* among scholars. ▪ The matter/issue is still ***in dispute***. [=people still disagree about it] ▪ The drug's effectiveness is ***beyond dispute***. [=it is certain that the drug is effective] ▪ How it happened is ***open to dispute***. [=people disagree about how it happened]

[2]dispute *verb* **-putes**; **-put•ed**; **-put•ing**

1 [+ *obj*] : to say or show that (something) may not be true, correct, or legal ▪ The lawyer *disputed* [=*challenged*] the witness's statement. ▪ You can *dispute* your bill if you believe it is inaccurate. ▪ She *disputed* the claim. ▪ These estimates are hotly/much *disputed* by scientists. ▪ No one ever *disputed* that it was the right decision. ▪ There is ***no disputing*** the drug's effectiveness. [=it is certain that the drug is effective]

2 : to argue about (something) [+ *obj*] The source of the text has been *disputed* for centuries. ▪ We were *disputing* [=*debating*] whether we should call the police or look for the thief ourselves. [*no obj*] It's no use *disputing* [=(more commonly) *arguing*] with them.

3 [+ *obj*] *formal* : to fight in order to take control of (something) ▪ a part of the city where two drug gangs are *disputing* territory

– **disputed** *adj* ▪ a *disputed* phone bill ▪ various *disputed* claims/questions ▪ the *disputed* territory/area/land

dis•qual•i•fy /dɪsˈkwɑːləˌfaɪ/ *verb* **-fies**; **-fied**; **-fy•ing** [+ *obj*] : to stop or prevent (someone) *from* doing, having, or being a part of something ▪ His poor eyesight *disqualified* him *from* becoming a pilot. ▪ The judge might *disqualify* [=*bar*] her *from* serving on the jury. — usually used as *(be) disqualified* ▪ The winner *was* later *disqualified* for cheating. ▪ *(Brit)* He *was disqualified from* driving for three months. [=he was not allowed to drive for three months]

– **dis•qual•i•fi•ca•tion** /dɪsˌkwɑːləfəˈkeɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*noncount*] A positive drug test is grounds/reason for *disqualification*. [*count*] What are the *disqualifications* for military service?

[1]dis•qui•et /dɪsˈkwajət/ *verb* **-ets**; **-eted**; **-et•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to make (someone) worried or nervous — usually used as *(be) disquieted* ▪ We *were disquieted* by the news.

– **disquieting** *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ We found the news *disquieting*. ▪ The letter gave *disquieting* news of the war.

[2]disquiet *noun* [*noncount*] *formal* : a feeling of worry or nervousness ▪ There is increasing public *disquiet* about/over the number of violent crimes in the city. ▪ The falling stock prices have caused great *disquiet* [=*concern*] among shareholders.

dis•qui•si•tion /ˌdɪskwəˈzɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count*] *formal* : a long speech or written report on a subject ▪ a lengthy *disquisition* on foreign policy

[1]dis•re•gard /ˌdɪsrɪˈgɑɚd/ *verb* **-gards**; **-gard•ed**; **-gard•ing** [+ *obj*] : to ignore (something) or treat (something) as unimportant ▪ Please *disregard* what I said before. ▪ He *disregarded* his father's advice and left school. ▪ Some students completely *disregard* the rules of the school.

[2]disregard *noun* : the act of ignoring something or treating something as unimportant [*noncount*] They treated the rules with complete/total *disregard*. — usually + *for* or *of* ▪ the government's casual *disregard for* the rights of its citizens ▪ The terrorists acted in complete/total *disregard of* human

life. ▪ The judge found that the statements were made with ***reckless disregard for/of*** the truth. [*singular*] — usually + *for* or *of* ▪ Some students show a complete *disregard for* the rules of the school. ▪ a *disregard of* the evidence

dis•re•pair /ˌdɪsrɪˈpeɚ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the state of needing to be repaired : bad condition ▪ The lighthouse was *in* ***disrepair*** until the volunteers cleaned it up. ▪ A number of major bridges are *in* (states of) *disrepair*. ▪ After years of neglect, the house ***fell into disrepair***.

dis•rep•u•ta•ble /dɪsˈrɛpjətəbəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* : not respected or trusted by most people : having a bad reputation ▪ *disreputable* people ▪ The company was using *disreputable* [=*dishonest*] hiring practices. — opposite REPUTABLE

dis•re•pute /ˌdɪsrɪˈpju:t/ *noun* [*noncount*] *formal* : a state of not being respected or trusted by most people : a state of having a bad reputation ▪ The theory has been ***in disrepute*** for years. ▪ The star player's drug use will ***bring*** the game ***into disrepute***. [=give the game a bad reputation; make people not respect the game] ▪ The technique has ***fallen into disrepute***. [=it is no longer respected or trusted]

[1]dis•re•spect /ˌdɪsrɪˈspɛkt/ *noun* : speech or behavior which shows that you do not think someone or something is valuable, important, etc. : lack of respect [*noncount*] The student treated the teacher with *disrespect*. ▪ With no *disrespect* to the other players [=I do not mean to say that other players are not good], he is clearly the star of the team. ▪ I'm sorry. I meant no *disrespect*. [*singular*] He showed a shocking *disrespect* for authority.

– **dis•re•spect•ful** /ˌdɪsrɪˈspɛktfəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ She was very *disrespectful* to the teacher. ▪ *disrespectful* behavior – **dis•re•spect•ful•ly** *adv*

[2]disrespect *verb* **-spects**; **-spect•ed**; **-spect•ing** [+ *obj*] : to say or do something that shows a lack of respect for (someone or something) ▪ He *disrespected* [=*insulted*] the police officer. ▪ He was angry because he felt he had been *disrespected*. [=treated with disrespect]

dis•robe /dɪsˈroʊb/ *verb* **-robes**; **-robed**; **-rob•ing** *formal*
1 [*no obj*] : to remove your clothes : UNDRESS ▪ She *disrobed* and stepped into the bathtub.
2 [+ *obj*] : to remove the clothes of (someone) : UNDRESS ▪ She *disrobed* herself.

dis•rupt /dɪsˈrʌpt/ *verb* **-rupts**; **-rupt•ed**; **-rupt•ing** [+ *obj*] : to cause (something) to be unable to continue in the normal way : to interrupt the normal progress or activity of (something) ▪ Protesters *disrupted* the conference. ▪ The barking dogs *disrupted* my sleep. ▪ The weather *disrupted* our travel plans. ▪ a chemical that *disrupts* cell function

– **dis•rup•tion** /dɪsˈrʌpʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count*] The construction caused *disruptions* in bus service. ▪ The chemical causes a *disruption* of cell function. [*noncount*] The change will be made with minimal *disruption* of service. – **dis•rup•tive** /dɪsˈrʌptɪv/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ *disruptive* behavior ▪ She has a *disruptive* influence on the other students. – **dis•rup•tive•ly** *adv*

diss *variant spelling of* DIS

dis•sat•is•fac•tion /dɪsˌsætəsˈfækʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** : a feeling of unhappiness or disapproval [*count*] — usually singular ▪ We're aware of a growing *dissatisfaction* among group members. ▪ She expressed her *dissatisfaction* with the restaurant's service. [*noncount*] There was widespread *dissatisfaction* with the President and his administration. ▪ a source of *dissatisfaction* — opposite SATISFACTION

dis•sat•is•fied /dɪsˈsætəsˌfaɪd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not happy or pleased ▪ *dissatisfied* customers — often + *with* ▪ He was *dissatisfied with* his job. — opposite SATISFIED; compare UNSATISFIED

dis•sat•is•fy /dɪsˈsætəsˌfaɪ/ *verb* **-fies**; **-fied**; **-fy•ing** [+ *obj*] : to fail to make (someone) happy or pleased ▪ Their final decision *dissatisfied* [=*displeased*] everyone. ▪ She was *dissatisfied* by the poor service. — opposite SATISFY

– **dissatisfying** *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ a *dissatisfying* experience ▪ The movie was *dissatisfying*.

dis•sect /daɪˈsɛkt, dɪˈsɛkt/ *verb* **-sects**; **-sect•ed**; **-sect•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to cut (a plant or dead animal) into separate parts in order to study it ▪ We *dissected* a frog in science class.
2 : to study or examine (something) closely and carefully : ANALYZE ▪ She *dissected* each point of his argument. ▪ We *dissected* the poem in class.
3 : to divide (something) into parts ▪ Streams *dissect* the land. ▪ The city is *dissected* by a network of highways.

– **dis•sec•tion** /daɪˈsɛkʃən, dɪˈsɛkʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count*] The students performed a *dissection*. ▪ Her essay includes an excellent *dissection* of the poem. [*noncount*] a process of careful *dissection*

dis•sem•ble /dɪˈsɛmbəl/ *verb* **-sem•bles**; **-sem•bled**; **-sem•bling** [*no obj*] *formal + literary* : to hide your true feelings, opinions, etc. ▪ It's now clear that he *dissembled* about the risks involved. [=he did not tell the truth about the risks involved]

– **dissembling** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ Such *dissembling* from a politician is nothing new.

dis•sem•i•nate /dɪˈsɛməˌneɪt/ *verb* **-nates**; **-nat•ed**; **-nat•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* : to cause (something, such as information) to go to many people ▪ The Internet allows us to *disseminate* information/news/ideas faster. ▪ The findings were widely *disseminated*.

– **dis•sem•i•na•tion** /dɪˌsɛməˈneɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the *dissemination* of information – **dis•sem•i•na•tor** /dɪˈsɛməˌneɪtɚ/ *noun, pl* **-tors** [*count*] ▪ *disseminators* of information

dis•sen•sion /dɪˈsɛnʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] *formal* : disagreement that causes the people in a group to argue about something that is important to them ▪ The incident has caused a lot of *dissension* within/in the police department. ▪ Religious *dissension* threatened to split the colony.

[1]dis•sent /dɪˈsɛnt/ *verb* **-sents**; **-sent•ed**; **-sent•ing** [*no obj*] *formal* : to publicly disagree with an official opinion, decision, or set of beliefs ▪ The Supreme Court, with two justices *dissenting*, ruled that the law was constitutional. — often + *from* ▪ Several scientists *dissented from* the decision.

– **dis•sent•er** /dɪˈsɛntɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] – **dissenting** *adj* ▪ *dissenting* opinions/views ▪ There are few *dissenting* voices within the party.

[2]dissent *noun, pl* **-sents**
1 *formal* : public disagreement with an official opinion, decision, or set of beliefs [*noncount*] Church leaders permitted no *dissent* from church teachings. ▪ He did everything in his power to suppress political *dissent*. [*count*] These *dissents* come from prominent scientists and should not be ignored.
2 [*count*] *US, law* : a statement by a judge giving reasons why the judge does not agree with the decision made by the other judges in a court case ▪ She argued in her *dissent* that Congress had exceeded its authority.

dis•ser•ta•tion /ˌdɪsɚˈteɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count*] : a long piece of writing about a particular subject that is done to earn an advanced degree at a university ▪ He wrote his *dissertation* on an obscure 16th-century poet.

dis•ser•vice /dɪsˈsɚvɪs/ *noun* [*singular*] : something that harms or damages someone or something ▪ Her comments were a *disservice* to those volunteers. — usually used in the phrase ***do a disservice*** ▪ He *did a disservice* to readers by providing wrong information. ▪ Her behavior has *done* the sport *a great disservice*. [=her behavior has hurt the sport]

dis•si•dent /ˈdɪsədənt/ *noun, pl* **-dents** [*count*] : someone who strongly and publicly disagrees with and criticizes the government ▪ Many political *dissidents* were arrested.

– **dis•si•dence** /ˈdɪsədəns/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ political/religious *dissidence* [=*dissent*] – **dissident** *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ *dissident* scholars/students ▪ the *dissident* movement

dis•sim•i•lar /dɪsˈsɪmələɚ/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not the same : different or unalike ▪ The two movies are very *dissimilar*. ▪ The writers have *dissimilar* backgrounds. ▪ A ***not dissimilar*** [=*similar*] situation has occurred overseas. ▪ The question is *not dissimilar* to one asked earlier. — opposite SIMILAR

– **dis•sim•i•lar•i•ty** /dɪsˌsɪməˈlerəti/ *noun, pl* **-ties** [*count*] *dissimilarities* in the writers' backgrounds [*noncount*] I could see no *dissimilarity* between the twins.

dis•si•pate /ˈdɪsəˌpeɪt/ *verb* **-pates**; **-pat•ed**; **-pat•ing** *formal*
1 a [+ *obj*] : to cause (something) to spread out and disappear ▪ The morning sun *dissipated* the fog. **b** [*no obj*] : to separate into parts and disappear or go away ▪ The fog should *dissipate* soon. ▪ By noon the crowd had *dissipated*. [=(more commonly) *dispersed*] — often used figuratively ▪ Her anger began to *dissipate* after a while.
2 [+ *obj*] : to use all or a lot of (something, such as money or time) in a foolish way ▪ He had *dissipated* [=*squandered*] his family's fortune in only a few years.

dis•si•pa•tion /ˌdɪsəˈpeɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** *formal*
1 [*noncount*] : the process of slowly disappearing or becom-

ing less ▪ Insulation helps prevent the *dissipation* of heat from houses in the winter.

2 [*noncount*] : the act of using all or a lot of money, time, etc., in a foolish way ▪ a movie about the *dissipation* of a famous heir's fortune ▪ the *dissipation* of resources

3 *disapproving* : behavior that shows you are interested only in pleasure, money, etc. [*noncount*] He lived a life of *dissipation*. [*count*] her gambling and *dissipations*

dis•so•ci•ate /dɪ'soʊʃiˌeɪt/ *verb* **-ates**; **-at•ed**; **-at•ing** [+ *obj*] : to end your relationship with or connection to someone or something : to separate (yourself) *from* someone or something ▪ She became famous and *dissociated* [=*disassociated*] herself *from* her past. ▪ The director has tried to *dissociate* himself *from* his earlier films. ▪ Why is the organization choosing to *dissociate* itself *from* its founder?

– **dis•so•ci•a•tion** /dɪˌsoʊʃi'eɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*]

dis•so•lute /'dɪsəˌlu:t/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* + *disapproving* — used to describe someone (such as a person who often gets drunk) whose way of living is considered morally wrong ▪ a *dissolute* drunk ▪ She has led a *dissolute* life.

dis•so•lu•tion /ˌdɪsə'lu:ʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] *formal*

1 : the act of officially ending a marriage, organization, agreement, etc. ▪ the *dissolution* of the marriage/business/contract

2 : the process of making something slowly end or disappear ▪ the *dissolution* of old beliefs ▪ The treatment is used for the *dissolution* of kidney stones.

dis•solve /dɪ'zɑ:lv/ *verb* **-solves**; **-solved**; **-solv•ing**

1 *of something solid* : to mix with a liquid and become part of the liquid [*no obj*] Sugar/salt *dissolves* in water. [+ *obj*] *Dissolve* the tablet in water.

2 [+ *obj*] *formal* : to officially end (something, such as a marriage, organization, or agreement) ▪ She *dissolved* [=*terminated*] their partnership. — often used as *(be) dissolved* ▪ The marriage/business/government *was dissolved*. ▪ The company *has been dissolved*.

3 *somewhat formal* : to end or disappear or cause (something) to end or disappear [*no obj*] His smile *dissolved* [=*disappeared*] when I told him the news. ▪ Hopes for peace *dissolved* in renewed violence. [+ *obj*] His kind words *dissolved* her sadness. ▪ The treatment is used to *dissolve* kidney stones.

✧ If you ***dissolve in/into tears/laughter, etc.***, you start to cry, laugh, etc., in an uncontrolled way. ▪ The audience *dissolved into* tears during the play's final scene. ▪ The children *dissolved into* laughter/giggles.

– **dis•solv•able** /dɪ'zɑ:lvəbəl/ *adj* ▪ The doctor used *dissolvable* stitches to close the wound.

dis•so•nant /'dɪsənənt/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 *formal* : not in agreement with something : DISCORDANT ▪ *dissonant* views

2 *music* : not in harmony : DISCORDANT ▪ *dissonant* chords — opposite CONSONANT

– **dis•so•nance** /'dɪsənəns/ *noun, pl* **-nanc•es** [*noncount*] The *dissonance* [=*conflict*] between the truth and what people want to believe. ▪ When played together, the chords create *dissonance*. [*count*] The composer uses *dissonances* freely.

dis•suade /dɪ'sweɪd/ *verb* **-suades**; **-suad•ed**; **-suad•ing** [+ *obj*] : to convince (someone) not to do something ▪ Our warnings did not *dissuade* them. — often + *from* ▪ He tried to *dissuade* them *from* going. — compare PERSUADE

dis•taff /'dɪˌstæf, *Brit* 'dɪˌstɑ:f/ *adj, always used before a noun, formal* : of, relating to, or being a woman : FEMALE ▪ the *distaff* [=*maternal*] side of the family ▪ *distaff* executives

[1]dis•tance /'dɪstəns/ *noun, pl* **-tanc•es**

1 : the amount of space between two places or things [*count*] What is the *distance* between the Earth and the Sun? ▪ The gas station is a short *distance* away. ▪ He spotted the group ***at a distance of*** one mile. [=he saw the group when they were one mile away from him] [*noncount*] Speed is measured in time and *distance*. ▪ The nearest gas station is ***some distance*** away. [=it is not nearby] ▪ Her house is within ***walking/striking distance*** of the school. [=she lives very close to the school] — see also LONG DISTANCE, MIDDLE DISTANCE

2 [*singular*] : a point or place that is far away from another point or place ▪ She kept the children a safe *distance* from the road. ▪ The sign was hard to read ***from a distance***. ▪ We followed them ***at a distance***. ▪ He saw a light ***in the distance***. [=he saw a light that was far away] — often used figuratively ▪ After observing politics *from a distance* for years, I've decided to run for office. ▪ (*Brit*) The book is better than the movie ***by some distance***. [=the book is much better than the movie]

3 : a state in which people are not involved with or friendly toward each other [*singular*] She feels a *distance* from her brother that wasn't there before. ▪ He heard the *distance* [=*unfriendliness*] in her voice. [*noncount*] Although they were once good friends, there was now considerable *distance* between them. ▪ He wants to put *distance* between himself and his former boss.

go the distance *also* ***last the distance*** : to complete something you have started ▪ Even with an injured elbow, he *went/lasted the distance* and pitched the rest of the game. ▪ Don't volunteer for the job if you can't *go the distance*.

keep (someone) at a distance : to be unfriendly toward (someone) ▪ She always *kept her coworkers at a distance*.

keep your distance **1** : to stay far enough away from someone or something to be safe ▪ Visitors are told to *keep their distance* from the monkeys. **2** : to avoid getting involved in something or becoming friendly with someone ▪ He tried to *keep his distance* from the scandal. ▪ After their break-up, she thought it was wise to *keep her distance*.

[2]distance *verb* **-tances**; **-tanced**; **-tanc•ing** [+ *obj*] : to show that you are not involved with someone or something : to end a connection to or relationship with someone or something — usually + *from* ▪ She has tried to *distance* herself *from* her family. ▪ They all want to *distance* themselves *from* the scandal.

distance learning *noun* [*noncount*] : a method of study where teachers and students do not meet in a classroom but use the Internet, e-mail, mail, etc., to have classes — called also *distance education*

dis•tant /'dɪstənt/ *adj*

1 [*more* ~; *most* ~] : existing or happening far away in space : separated by space ▪ astronomers studying *distant* galaxies ▪ They visited all sorts of *distant* [=*far-off*] places. ▪ He finished the race a *distant* second. [=he was the second person to finish the race but he was far behind the winner] ▪ The town is about 30 miles *distant*. [=(more commonly) *away*]

2 *always used before a noun* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : far away in time : happening far in the past or far into the future ▪ In the *distant* past, dinosaurs roamed the earth. ▪ The day I left home is now a *distant* memory. ▪ the *distant* future ▪ We're expecting major changes ***in the not too distant future***. [=*soon*]

3 *always used before a noun* [*more* ~; *most* ~] — used to describe a relative who is not closely related to you ▪ She's a *distant* cousin of mine. ▪ Some of my more *distant* relatives still live there. — opposite CLOSE; compare IMMEDIATE

4 : having to do with something that is not related to what is happening where you are or at the present time ▪ His mind drifted to *distant* thoughts. ▪ I remember when the restaurant's opening was nothing more than a *distant* possibility. ▪ She has a ***distant look in her eye***. [=the look on her face shows that she is thinking about something that is not related to what is happening now]

5 [*more* ~; *most* ~] *somewhat formal* : not friendly or showing emotion ▪ People did not like her *distant* manner. ▪ He was cold and *distant*.

6 [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not like someone or something else — usually + *from* ▪ The values of that time seem very *distant* [=*different*] *from* our own.

the dim and distant past *chiefly Brit* : a time that is so far in the past it is difficult to remember ▪ I remember *the dim and distant past* when the town was much smaller.

– **dis•tant•ly** *adv* ▪ We are *distantly* related to each other. ▪ She stared *distantly* out the window.

dis•taste /dɪs'teɪst/ *noun, pl* **-tastes** : a strong feeling of not liking someone or something [*count*] — usually singular ▪ I've developed a real *distaste* [=*dislike*] for paperwork. [*noncount*] "I see you still smoke," she said with *distaste*.

dis•taste•ful /dɪs'teɪstfəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : not pleasant or enjoyable ▪ The work was *distasteful*, but it was the best I could find at the time. ▪ It was a *distasteful* subject to him.

2 : morally offensive ▪ *distasteful* jokes/behavior

– **dis•taste•ful•ly** *adv*

dis•tem•per /dɪs'tɛmpɚ/ *noun* [*noncount*] *medical* : a serious disease of animals (such as dogs and cats) that is easily passed to other animals

dis•tend /dɪ'stɛnd/ *verb* **-tends**; **-tend•ed**; **-tend•ing** *medical* + *formal* : to become larger and rounder because of pressure from inside [*no obj*] The illness can cause the stom-

ach to *distend*. [=*swell*] [+ *obj*] an abdomen *distended* by disease ▪ a *distended* abdomen/stomach
– **dis•ten•sion** *or US* **dis•ten•tion** /dɪ'stɛnʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ abdominal *distension* [=*swelling*]

dis•till (*US*) *or chiefly Brit* **dis•til** /dɪ'stɪl/ *verb* **-tills**; **-tilled**; **-till•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 a : to make (a liquid) pure by heating it until it becomes a gas and then cooling it until it is a liquid again : to purify (a liquid) by distillation ▪ *distilled* water **b :** to make (a strong alcoholic drink) by using this process ▪ They *distill* the whiskey from malted barley.
2 : to take the most important parts of something and put them in a different and usually improved form ▪ He has perfectly *distilled* the meaning of the holiday into a poem. ▪ Her wisdom is *distilled* from [=her wisdom comes from] many years of experience.
– **dis•til•la•tion** /ˌdɪstə'leɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*noncount*] the *distillation* of brandy from wine ▪ the *distillation* of experience [*count*] The poem is a perfect *distillation* of the meaning of the holiday.

dis•till•er /dɪ'stɪlɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a person or company that produces strong alcoholic drinks (such as whiskey) by distilling them

dis•till•ery /dɪ'stɪləri/ *noun, pl* **-er•ies** [*count*] : a place where alcoholic drinks (such as whiskey) are produced

dis•tinct /dɪ'stɪŋkt/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : different in a way that you can see, hear, smell, feel, etc. : noticeably different ▪ There are three *distinct* categories/classes/groups/types. ▪ The two plants are quite *distinct* (from one another). ▪ Each herb has its own *distinct* flavor. ▪ The phrase has three *distinct* meanings. ▪ The class focuses on U.S. English, ***as distinct from*** British English. [=the class focuses on U.S. English and not on British English]
2 : easy to see, hear, smell, feel, etc. ▪ He speaks with a *distinct* [=*noticeable*] Southern accent. ▪ There was the *distinct* smell of something burning. ▪ The outline became less and less *distinct* as the light faded.
3 : strong and definite ▪ A flight cancellation is a *distinct* [=*real*] possibility. ▪ We had the *distinct* impression that they were lying.
– **dis•tinct•ly** *adv* ▪ Each island has a *distinctly* different character. ▪ I *distinctly* told you not to call me. ▪ a *distinctly* American phenomenon [=something that happens only in America] – **dis•tinct•ness** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ *distinctness* of form

dis•tinc•tion /dɪ'stɪŋkʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**
1 [*count*] : a difference that you can see, hear, smell, feel, etc. : a noticeable difference between things or people ▪ These dogs are different breeds, but this *distinction* is lost on most people. [=most people do not see a difference between these dogs] ▪ There are no obvious *distinctions between* the two designs. ▪ *distinctions between* social classes ▪ She ***made/drew a distinction between*** the words "less" and "fewer."
2 [*noncount*] : the separation of people or things into different groups ▪ The law should be enforced without *distinction* as to race, sex, or religion. [=the law should not treat people of different races, sexes, or religions differently]
3 [*noncount*] : importance, excellence, or achievement ▪ He was raised in a small town of no great *distinction*. ▪ Her talents gave *distinction* to the work. ▪ She was a politician of some *distinction*. [=she was a distinguished politician]
4 : a special honor, recognition, or award [*count*] She's won many *distinctions*. ▪ (*Brit*) She was awarded a *distinction* for her dissertation. [*noncount*] They should give him the *distinction* he deserves. ▪ He graduated ***with distinction***. [=with special awards or recognition]
5 [*noncount*] : the quality that makes a person or thing special or different — + *of* ▪ It had the *distinction of* being the oldest house in the city. ▪ The city bears the ***dubious distinction of*** being the most polluted in the nation.

dis•tinc•tive /dɪ'stɪŋktɪv/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : having a quality or characteristic that makes a person or thing different from others : different in a way that is easy to notice ▪ He had a very *distinctive* walk. ▪ This wine has a more *distinctive* flavor than that one. ▪ a cooking style that is *distinctive* [=*characteristic*] of this region
2 : appealing or interesting because of an unusual quality or characteristic ▪ The store sells only the most *distinctive* chocolates.
– **dis•tinc•tive•ly** *adv* ▪ a *distinctively* regional cooking style – **dis•tinc•tive•ness** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the *distinctiveness* of the store's chocolates

dis•tin•guish /dɪ'stɪŋgwɪʃ/ *verb* **-guish•es**; **-guished**; **-guish•ing**
1 : to notice or recognize a difference between people or things [*no obj*] You're old enough to *distinguish* between fact and fantasy. ▪ I have trouble *distinguishing* between the two of them. [+ *obj*] Their voices are hard to *distinguish*. [=*tell apart*] ▪ I have trouble *distinguishing* the difference between the two of them. ▪ You should be able to *distinguish* fact from fantasy.
2 *not used in progressive tenses* [+ *obj*] : to make (someone or something) different or special in some way ▪ The only thing that *distinguishes* the dogs is their bark. ▪ The recipe is *distinguished* by its simplicity. [=the unusual or interesting thing about the recipe is its simplicity] ▪ The singer's voice is what *distinguishes* the band. — often + *from* ▪ Our excellent customer service *distinguishes* us *from* our competitors. ▪ The law affects private property ***as distinguished from*** public property. [=the law affects private property and not public property]
3 *not used in progressive tenses* [+ *obj*] : to see or hear (someone or something) clearly ▪ You can't *distinguish* the detail from this distance.
distinguish yourself : to do something very well or in a way that deserves special recognition ▪ She has *distinguished herself* as a leader in the community. ▪ He *distinguished himself* in the war.
– **dis•tin•guish•able** /dɪ'stɪŋgwɪʃəbəɫ/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ The plant is *distinguishable* by its oddly shaped leaves. ▪ There are four *distinguishable* types. ▪ The copy is clearly/barely *distinguishable* from the original. – **distinguishing** *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ The plant has several *distinguishing* characteristics/features.

dis•tin•guished /dɪ'stɪŋgwɪʃt/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : known by many people because of some quality or achievement ▪ a *distinguished* scientist/career ▪ She is *distinguished* for her achievements in genetic research.
2 : making someone seem important and worth respect ▪ the professor's *distinguished* appearance ▪ He's a *distinguished*-looking gentleman.

dis•tort /dɪ'stoɚt/ *verb* **-torts**; **-tort•ed**; **-tort•ing**
1 : to change the natural, normal, or original shape, appearance, or sound of (something) in a way that is usually not attractive or pleasing [+ *obj*] Her face was *distorted* by pain. ▪ The odd camera angle *distorted* her figure in the photograph. ▪ The sound of the guitar was *distorted*. [*no obj*] Heat caused the plastic to *distort*.
2 [+ *obj*] : to change (something) so that it is no longer true or accurate ▪ She felt he was *distorting* the facts. ▪ The story was *distorted* by the press. ▪ The loss of both her parents at an early age *distorted* her outlook on life.
– **distorted** *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ a *distorted* face/image ▪ He had a *distorted* view of the situation. ▪ His voice sounded *distorted* over the phone. – **dis•tor•tion** /dɪ'stoɚʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count*] The statement was an intentional *distortion* of the facts. ▪ Curved mirrors cause image *distortions*. [*noncount*] an image/sound that is free of *distortion*

dis•tract /dɪ'strækt/ *verb* **-tracts**; **-tract•ed**; **-tract•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to cause (someone) to stop thinking about or paying attention to someone or something and to think about or pay attention to someone or something else instead ▪ You sneak into his room while I *distract* him. ▪ He was *distracted* from his studies. ▪ The students are easily *distracted*, especially when they're tired. ▪ I was *distracted* by a loud noise.
2 : to take (attention) away from someone or something ▪ The local story ***distracted attention from*** news of the war overseas.
– **distracting** *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ The music was very *distracting*. ▪ a *distracting* noise

distracted /dɪ'stræktəd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : unable to think about or pay attention to something : unable to concentrate ▪ If you're feeling *distracted*, take a break.
– **dis•tract•ed•ly** *adv* ▪ "I wonder if it's going to snow," she said *distractedly*. [=*absentmindedly*]

dis•trac•tion /dɪ'strækʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**
1 : something that makes it difficult to think or pay attention [*count*] It was hard to work with so many *distractions*. ▪ One of them created a *distraction* while the other grabbed the money. [*noncount*] He worked without *distraction*.
2 [*count*] : something that amuses or entertains you so that you do not think about problems, work, etc. ▪ He found reading to be a good *distraction*. [=*diversion*] ▪ A weekend at

the beach was a good *distraction* from her troubles.
3 [*noncount*] : a state in which you are very annoyed or upset • Their endless chatter ***drove her to distraction***.

dis•traught /dɪ'strɑ:t/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : very upset : so upset that you are not able to think clearly or behave normally • *Distraught* relatives are waiting for news of the missing children. • She was *distraught* over the death of her partner.

[1]dis•tress /dɪ'strɛs/ *noun* [*noncount*]
1 : unhappiness or pain : suffering that affects the mind or body • Citizens voiced their *distress* over delays in fixing the problem. • The patient showed no obvious signs of *distress*. • He suffered severe emotional *distress* as a result of the accident. • The new drug can cause abdominal/gastric *distress*. [=stomach pain] • a cry of *distress* • He was clearly ***in distress*** [=very upset] upon hearing the news.
2 : a very difficult situation in which you do not have enough money, food, etc. • She's chosen to devote her life to helping those ***in distress***. [=*in trouble, in need*] • Donations were given to families *in* (financial) *distress*.
3 *of a boat, airplane, etc.* : a state of danger or desperate need • The ship was ***in distress***. [=the ship was possibly going to sink] • The Coast Guard responded to the ship's ***distress signal/call***. [=signal or call for help]
damsel in distress see DAMSEL

[2]distress *verb* **-tress•es**; **-tressed**; **-tress•ing** [+ *obj*] : to worry or upset (someone) • The news *distressed* [=*disturbed*] her. — usually used as *(be) distressed* • I *was distressed* to learn that the hospital had closed.
– **distressing** *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] • I heard some *distressing* news. • It was *distressing* to learn that the hospital had closed. – **dis•tress•ing•ly** *adv*

distressed *adj*
1 [*more* ~; *most* ~] : feeling or showing extreme unhappiness or pain • He was very *distressed* [=*upset*] about the accident. • She felt emotionally and physically *distressed*.
2 [*more* ~; *most* ~] *somewhat formal* : not having enough money : experiencing financial trouble • The government provided funds to the economically *distressed* city. • Donations were given to financially *distressed* families.
3 — used to describe something (such as a piece of clothing or furniture) that has been made to look old or to look like something that has been used a lot • a *distressed* pair of jeans • *distressed* leather • a *distressed* oak table

dis•trib•ute /dɪ'strɪbju:t/ *verb* **-utes**; **-ut•ed**; **-ut•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 a : to give or deliver (something) to people • She *distributes* [=*hands out*] the paychecks every week. — usually + *to* • He'd been hired to *distribute* leaflets *to* people who passed by. • The organization *distributes* food and clothing *to* needy families. **b** : to deliver (something) to a store or business — usually + *to* • The trucking company *distributes* goods *to* stores throughout the state. • One million copies of the CD were *distributed to* stores.
2 : to divide (something) among the members of a group — usually + *between* or *among*; often used as *(be/get) distributed* • The profits *are* evenly *distributed between* them. • The work for the project *gets distributed among* the editors.
3 : to spread or place (something) over an area • The machine *distributes* [=*scatters*] the seeds evenly on the ground. — often used as *(be/get) distributed* • Make sure the paint *is distributed* evenly over the surface area. — often used figuratively • The player's 200 pounds ***are evenly distributed*** over his six-foot frame. • The plant ***is widely distributed*** throughout the world. [=the plant grows throughout the world]

dis•tri•bu•tion /ˌdɪstrə'bju:ʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**
1 [*noncount*] **a** : the act of giving or delivering something to people • The group collects food and clothing for *distribution* to needy families. • The *distribution* of paychecks will happen every other Friday. • The university does not permit *distribution* of leaflets on campus. **b** : the act of delivering something to a store or business • She was responsible for product *distribution*. • The company handles the *distribution* of goods to stores nationwide. — often used before another noun • The company acquired U.S. *distribution* rights. • *distribution* costs • a *distribution* company/center
2 : the way that something is divided or spread out [*count*] He complained that the *distribution* of work was unfair. • He studies the *distributions* of wildcats in North America. [*noncount*] The new design provides better weight *distribution*.

dis•trib•u•tor /dɪ'strɪbjətə/ *noun, pl* **-tors** [*count*]
1 : a person or company that supplies stores or businesses with goods • a software *distributor*
2 *technical* : a device that sends electricity to the spark plugs of an engine — see picture at ENGINE

dis•trict /'dɪstrɪkt/ *noun, pl* **-tricts** [*count*] : an area or section of a country, city, or town: such as **a** : an area established by a government for official government business • postal/election *districts* • Six police officers are in charge of the *district*. • She represents the eighth congressional *district*. — see also SCHOOL DISTRICT **b** : an area or section that has some special characteristic or purpose • a church/sales *district* • the city's entertainment/shopping *district* • He was promoted to *district* manager. [=he was put in charge of that company's activities in a particular district]

district attorney *noun, pl* ~ **-neys** [*count*] : a lawyer who works for the U.S. government in a state, county, etc., and who is responsible for starting a criminal case against someone — abbr. *DA*

district court *noun, pl* ~ **courts** [*count*] *law* : a court in the U.S. in which cases in a particular area are brought to trial; *especially* : one of the trial courts for cases involving federal law

[1]dis•trust /dɪs'trʌst/ *verb* **-trusts**; **-trust•ed**; **-trust•ing** [+ *obj*] : to have no trust or confidence in (someone or something) : MISTRUST • He generally *distrusts* doctors. • She's always *distrusted* their promises.

[2]distrust *noun* : lack of trust or confidence : a feeling that someone or something is not honest and cannot be trusted [*noncount*] He regards doctors with *distrust*. [=*mistrust*] [*singular*] He has a *distrust* of doctors.
– **dis•trust•ful** /dɪs'trʌstfəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] • He is generally *distrustful* [=*mistrustful*] of doctors. – **dis•trust•ful•ly** *adv* • He looked *distrustfully* at them.

dis•turb /dɪ'stəb/ *verb* **-turbs**; **-turbed**; **-turb•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to stop (someone) from working, sleeping, etc. : to interrupt or bother (someone or something) • I'm sorry to *disturb* you at such a late hour. • She doesn't want to be *disturbed* while she's working. • Don't *disturb* the baby when he's sleeping. • The noise *disturbed* my concentration. • They were arrested for ***disturbing the peace***. [=behaving in a violent or noisy manner in public]
2 : to worry or upset (someone) • The news *disturbed* [=*distressed*] him. • His behavior *disturbs* me. — often used as *(be) disturbed* • I *am disturbed* at/by his behavior. • She *was disturbed* to learn that her son was failing one of his classes.
3 : to change the position, arrangement, or order of (something) • The police ordered that nothing be *disturbed* in the room. [=that nothing be touched or moved] • His visit *disturbed* [=*disrupted*] our morning routine.
– **disturbing** *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] • It was a deeply *disturbing* sight. • I thought the movie was very *disturbing*. – **dis•turb•ing•ly** *adv* • There was a *disturbingly* high number of crimes last year. • *Disturbingly*, the story is true.

dis•turb•ance /dɪ'stəbəns/ *noun, pl* **-anc•es**
1 a : something that stops you from working, sleeping, etc. : the act of disturbing someone or something [*count*] She doesn't want any more *disturbances* while she is studying. • She suffered from frequent sleep *disturbances*. [=*disruptions*] [*noncount*] He reacts badly to *disturbance* of his daily routine. **b** : a change in the position, arrangement, or order of something [*count*] Fish are able to detect even slight *disturbances* in the water. [*noncount*] *Disturbance* of the river's sediment causes cloudy water.
2 : violent or noisy behavior especially in public [*count*] Neighbors called the police to report a *disturbance*. • They were arrested for ***creating/causing a disturbance***. [*noncount*] He was arrested for ***disturbance of the peace***. [=behaving in a violent or noisy way in public]
3 : an unhealthy physical or mental condition in which something is not normal [*count*] heart rhythm *disturbances* • visual/emotional/mental *disturbances* [*noncount*] The violence that soldiers experience in war can lead to emotional *disturbance* in later years.

disturbed *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : having or showing evidence of a mental or emotional illness • mentally/emotionally *disturbed* children
2 : worried and unhappy • He seems very *disturbed* about his work lately.
3 *of sleep* : affected by a disturbance • She'd been experiencing *disturbed* sleep. [=sleep that is interrupted]

dis•unit•ed /ˌdɪsju'naɪtəd/ *adj, chiefly Brit* : not able to work or agree with other people within the same group, organization, etc. • The rebels seem to be increasingly *disunited*. • a *disunited* political party

dis•uni•ty /dɪs'ju:nəti/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the state of not being able to agree about important things : lack of unity • They are concerned about *disunity* [=*dissension, disagreement*] within the party.

dis•use /dɪs'ju:s/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the state of not being used : lack of use • The room was dusty from/with *disuse*. • The word *fell into disuse* [=people stopped using it] many years ago.

dis•used /dɪs'ju:zd/ *adj, always used before a noun* : no longer used • *disused* buildings/mines • a *disused* word

[1]ditch /'dɪtʃ/ *noun, pl* **ditch•es** [*count*] : a long narrow hole that is dug along a road, field, etc., and used to hold or move water • irrigation *ditches* • He drove the car into the *ditch*. — see also LAST-DITCH

[2]ditch *verb* **ditches; ditched; ditch•ing**

1 [+ *obj*] *informal* : to stop having or using (something you no longer want or need) : to get rid of (something) • The thief *ditched* the purse in an alley. • They *ditched* the car in a vacant lot. • We've *ditched* [=*abandoned*] plans to open a café together.

2 [+ *obj*] *informal* : to end a relationship with (someone) • His girlfriend *ditched* him. = He *got ditched* by his girlfriend. • The team's owner *ditched* [=*fired, dismissed*] the head coach.

3 [+ *obj*] *US, informal* : to get away from (someone you do not want to be with) without saying that you are leaving • They *ditched* me at the concert.

4 [+ *obj*] *US, informal* : to not go to (something, such as school, work, etc.) • Let's *ditch* [=*skip*] school today. • He *ditched* [=*left, quit*] school to join the army.

5 : to land an aircraft on water because of an emergency : to crash-land on water [*no obj*] Engine trouble forced the pilot to *ditch*. [+ *obj*] He had to *ditch* the helicopter.

ditch•wa•ter /'dɪtʃˌwɑ:tɚ/ *noun*

(as) dull as ditchwater *Brit, informal* : very boring • The book is *as dull as ditchwater*. [=*(US) (as) dull as dishwater*]

[1]dith•er /'dɪðɚ/ *noun* [*singular*] *informal* : a very nervous, confused, or excited state — usually used in the phrase ***in a dither*** • They're *in a dither* over what to do next. • The news of his arrival had us (all) *in a dither*.

[2]dither *verb* **-ers; -ered; -er•ing** [*no obj*] *informal* : to delay taking action because you are not sure about what to do • We don't have time to *dither*. • She did not *dither* about/over what to do next.

– dith•er•er *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

[1]dit•to /'dɪtoʊ/ *adv, informal*

1 — used to say that whatever you have said about one person or thing is also true of another person or thing • Boston is getting a lot of rain. *Ditto* New York. [=New York is also getting a lot of rain] • He is good at baseball, *ditto* at golf.

2 — used in speech to show you agree with what someone has just said or have the same opinion • "I don't like spinach." "*Ditto*." [=I don't like spinach either]

[2]ditto *noun, pl* **-tos** [*count*] : a pair of marks " used underneath a word to save space and show that the word is repeated where the marks are — called also *ditto marks*

dit•ty /'dɪti/ *noun, pl* **-ties** [*count*] *sometimes humorous* : a short and simple song • Play us a little *ditty*.

ditz /'dɪts/ *noun, pl* **ditz•es** [*count*] *chiefly US, informal* + *sometimes disapproving* : a silly person who often forgets things • His girlfriend is nice but she's a bit of a *ditz*. [=his girlfriend is somewhat ditzy]

dit•zy *or* **dit•sy** /'dɪtsi/ *adj* **ditz•i•er** *or* **dits•i•er; -est** [*or more ~; most ~*] *chiefly US, informal* : silly and tending to forget things : DIZZY — used especially of a woman • a *ditzy* blonde

di•uret•ic /ˌdajə'rɛtɪk/ *noun, pl* **-ics** [*count*] *medical* : a substance that increases the amount of urine you pass from your body • The drug is a *diuretic*.

– diuretic *adj* • a *diuretic* drug/effect

di•ur•nal /daɪ'ɚnl/ *adj, technical*

1 : active mainly during the day • *diurnal* animals — opposite NOCTURNAL

2 : happening every day • *diurnal* tides

div. *also* **div** *abbr* division

di•va /'di:və/ *noun, pl* **-vas** [*count*]

1 : the main female singer in an opera company

2 : a famous and successful woman who is very attractive and fashionable; *especially* : an attractive and successful female performer or celebrity • pop *divas* • a fashion *diva*

di•van /dɪ'væn/ *noun, pl* **-vans** [*count*]

1 : a long, low seat that has no back or arms or only part of a back and one arm

2 *Brit* : a bed that has a thick base and usually no footboard

[1]dive /'daɪv/ *verb* **dives; dived** /'daɪvd/ *or chiefly US* **dove** /'doʊv/; **div•ing** [*no obj*]

1 : to jump into water with your arms and head going in first • She *dove* into the swimming pool. • The children like to *dive* off the boat. • The competitors will be *diving* from the highest platform.

2 : to swim underwater usually while using special equipment to help you breathe • Many people enjoy *diving* on the island's coral reefs. • You can't *dive* in this water without a wet suit. • He *dives* for pearls. [=he dives in order to find pearls] — see also SCUBA DIVE, SKIN-DIVE

3 : to go underwater or down to a deeper level underwater • The submarine can *dive* to 3,000 feet. • The whale *dove* down to deeper water.

4 : to move down through the air at a steep angle • We watched the hawk *dive* for its prey. • The plane suddenly *dove*. — see also DIVE-BOMB, NOSE-DIVE, SKYDIVE

5 : to fall suddenly and quickly in amount, value, etc. • The temperature *dived* [=(more commonly) *plunged, dropped*] down below zero. • The stock's value *dove* to an all-time low.

6 : to suddenly jump toward something that is on or near the ground • The goalie *dove* in front of the goal. — often + *for* • He *dove for* the ball. • He *dove for cover*. [=he suddenly jumped to a place where he would be safe or protected] — sometimes used figuratively • Her books always have me *diving for* my dictionary. [=I often need a dictionary to understand the words she uses in her books]

7 *informal* : to start doing something with enthusiasm — usually + *into* or *in* • They *dove into* their work. • I'm just not ready to *dive* (right) *into* another romantic relationship. • They sat down at the dinner table and *dove (right) in*. [=started eating immediately] • We have a lot of things to discuss, so let's *dive right in*. [=let's get started immediately]

8 *informal* : to quickly reach *into* (a bag, pocket, etc.) • She *dove into* her purse to find some change.

[2]dive *noun, pl* **dives** [*count*]

1 : a jump into water with your arms and head going in first • She practiced her *dives* for the competition. • a perfect *dive*

2 : an act of swimming underwater usually while using special equipment (such as a snorkel or air tank) to help you breathe • This will be my first *dive* on a coral reef. • She has done *dives* all around the world.

3 : a usually steep downward movement of a submarine, airplane, bird, etc. • The crew of the submarine prepared for a *dive*. • The jet rolled into a *dive*.

4 : a sudden quick fall in amount, value, etc. • Temperatures across the region will *take a dive* tonight. • The stock market *took a dive*.

5 *informal* : a bar, nightclub, etc., that is cheap and dirty • That bar is a real *dive*.

6 : a sudden jump or movement toward something that is on or near the ground • He *made a dive for* the ditch/ball/gun. • He *made a dive for cover*. [=he suddenly jumped to a place where he would be safe or protected]

dive–bomb /'daɪvˌbɑ:m/ *verb* **-bombs; -bombed; -bomb•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to drop a bomb from an airplane on (something) after approaching it at a sharp or steep angle • The pilots/planes *dive-bombed* the enemy ships.

2 : to attack (someone or something) from the air at a sharp or steep angle • We were *dive-bombed* by seagulls at the beach.

div•er /'daɪvɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

1 : a person who dives into water • competitive *divers*

2 : a person who swims underwater usually while using special equipment to breathe • pearl *divers* • a deep-sea *diver* — see also SCUBA DIVER, SKIN DIVER, SKYDIVER

di•verge /də'vɚʤ/ *verb* **-verg•es; -verged; -verg•ing** [*no obj*] *formal*

1 : to split and move out in different directions from a single point • A prism causes rays of light to *diverge*. • "Two roads *diverged* in a yellow wood . . ." —Robert Frost, "The Road Not Taken" (1916) — opposite CONVERGE

2 : to be or become different • They were close friends in college, but after graduation, their lives *diverged*. • When it comes to politics, their opinions/views *diverge*. [=they have different opinions/views]

– di•ver•gence /də'vɚʤəns/ *noun, pl* **-genc•es** [*count*] *divergences* between dialects • There is a wide *divergence* of opinion between the parties. [*noncount*] He is studying the

levels of *divergence* between the species. – **di•ver•gent** /dəˈvɚʤənt/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] ▪ *divergent* lines/opinions/cultures ▪ Their views are widely *divergent*.

di•verse /daɪˈvɚs/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*]

1 : different from each other ▪ The magazine covers topics as *diverse* [=*varied*] as chemistry and sculpture. ▪ people with *diverse* interests

2 : made up of people or things that are different from each other ▪ His message appealed to a *diverse* audience. ▪ The group of students is very *diverse*. [=the students are different ages, races, etc.] ▪ a *diverse* group of subjects

– **di•verse•ly** *adv* – **di•verse•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

di•ver•si•fy /dəˈvɚsəˌfaɪ/ *verb* **-fies**; **-fied**; **-fy•ing**

1 : to change (something) so that it has more different kinds of people or things [+ *obj*] The country is *diversifying* its energy sources. ▪ farmers who want to *diversify* their crops ▪ You should *diversify* your investments. = Your investments should be *diversified*. [=you should invest your money in several different ways instead of investing it all in one thing] [*no obj*] Investors should *diversify*.

2 : to produce or sell more kinds of products : to increase the variety of goods or services produced or offered by (someone or something) [+ *obj*] The new CEO's chief aim is to *diversify* the company. [*no obj*] The company needs to *diversify*. ▪ Many publishing companies have ***diversified into*** online services.

– **di•ver•si•fi•ca•tion** /dəˌvɚsəfəˈkeɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ The company's efforts at *diversification* have been successful. – **di•ver•si•fied** *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] ▪ a *diversified* company ▪ a *diversified* economy [=an economy that has a variety of industries]

di•ver•sion /dəˈvɚʒən/ *noun, pl* **-sions**

1 *formal* : the act of changing the direction or use of something : the act of diverting something [*count*] The bad weather forced the *diversion* of several flights. [=several flights had to land somewhere else because of bad weather] ▪ small *diversions of* river water for irrigation [*noncount*] The officials were charged with illegal *diversion* of public funds. [=they were charged with using public money illegally for some improper purpose]

2 *formal* : something that people do because it is enjoyable, entertaining, or pleasant [*count*] Hiking is one of my favorite *diversions*. ▪ Our town offers few *diversions*. ▪ Sports provide him with a welcome *diversion* from the pressures of his job. [*noncount*] We're in need of some *diversion*. [=*amusement, entertainment*]

3 [*count*] : something that takes attention away from what is happening ▪ He ***created a diversion*** while his partner stole her pocketbook.

4 [*count*] *Brit* : [1]DETOUR 2 ▪ The road is closed—please follow the *diversion*.

di•ver•sion•ary /dəˈvɚʒəˌneri, *Brit* dəˈvəːʒənri/ *adj, formal* : tending or intended to take attention away from someone or something important ▪ This is nothing more than a ***diversionary tactic*** to distract attention from the issues.

di•ver•si•ty /dəˈvɚsəti/ *noun, pl* **-ties**

1 : the quality or state of having many different forms, types, ideas, etc. [*noncount*] The island has more *diversity* in plant life than other islands nearby. ▪ biological/genetic/linguistic *diversity* ▪ There was some *diversity* of opinion about what should be done. [=people had different opinions about what should be done] [*count*] — usually singular ▪ The area has a great *diversity* [=*variety*] of birds. ▪ She has a wide *diversity* of interests. [=she has many different interests]

2 : the state of having people who are different races or who have different cultures in a group or organization [*noncount*] The city is known for its cultural/ethnic *diversity*. ▪ The school aims for *diversity* in its student population. [*count*] — usually singular ▪ There is a greater *diversity* in the city's population now.

di•vert /dəˈvɚt/ *verb* **-verts**; **-vert•ed**; **-vert•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to change the direction or use of (something) ▪ Police *diverted* traffic to a side street. ▪ The stream was *diverted* toward the farmland. ▪ They were charged with illegally *diverting* public funds for private use.

2 a : to take (attention) away *from* someone or something ▪ He lied to ***divert attention from*** the real situation. ▪ They're only proposing the law to *divert attention from* important issues. **b** : to take the attention of (someone) away from something or someone ▪ Nothing can *divert* [=*distract*] me from my goal.

3 *formal* : to entertain (someone) ▪ The children *diverted* [=(more commonly) *amused*] themselves with games.

– **diverting** *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] ▪ some fairly/mildly *diverting* [=(more commonly) *amusing, entertaining*] books/movies/evenings

di•vest /daɪˈvɛst/ *verb* **-vests**; **-vest•ed**; **-vest•ing** [+ *obj*] *finance* : to sell (something valuable, such as property or stocks) ▪ The company is *divesting* 8 of its 20 stores. ▪ We may have to *divest* assets to raise capital/money.

divest of [*phrasal verb*] *formal* **1** ***divest (someone or something) of (something)*** : to take (something) away from (someone or something else) : to cause (someone or something) to lose or give up (something) ▪ The document does not *divest* her *of* her right to use the property. — often used as *(be) divested* ▪ He *was divested of* his title/power/dignity. **2** ***divest (yourself) of (something)*** **a** : to sell or give away (possessions, money, etc.) ▪ She *divested herself of* most of her possessions. **b** *old-fashioned* : to remove (clothing, equipment, etc.) from your body ▪ He *divested himself of* his coat.

– **di•vest•ment** /daɪˈvɛstmənt/ *noun, pl* **-ments** [*count*] asset *divestments* [*noncount*] the *divestment* of assets

di•ves•ti•ture /daɪˈvɛstəˌʧuɚ/ *noun, pl* **-tures** *finance* : the act of selling stock, property, etc., because of a government order [*count*] *Divestitures* are used to break up monopolies. [*noncount*] Before *divestiture*, the telephone company monopolized the state.

[1]di•vide /dəˈvaɪd/ *verb* **-vides**; **-vid•ed**; **-vid•ing**

1 a : to separate (something) into two or more parts or pieces [+ *obj*] He *divided* [=*split*] the loaf in half. ▪ The river *divides* the town. [=parts of the town are on both sides of the river] ▪ She *divided* the pie into eight pieces. ▪ The equator *divides* the Earth into two hemispheres. ▪ The teacher *divided* the class (up) into four groups. = The teacher *divided* (up) the class *into* four groups. — often used as *(be) divided* ▪ The class *was divided* (up) into four groups. ▪ The book *is divided* into three sections. [*no obj*] The cells *divide* rapidly. ▪ The river *divides* after the bridge. **b** [+ *obj*] : to separate (something) into classes or categories ▪ We *divided* (up) the beads according to size and color. ▪ The author *divides* literature into three categories. [=the author says that there are three categories of literature] — often used as *(be) divided* ▪ Animals can *be divided* into several major types.

2 [+ *obj*] **a** : to give (something) out in usually equal amounts ▪ They *divided* [=*distributed*] the profits between/among themselves. ▪ We *divided* the work (up) equally. ▪ They *divided* (up) [=*shared*] the remaining food. **b** : to use (your time, energy, etc.) for two or more purposes or activities — usually + *between* ▪ He *divides* his energy *between* sports and school. ▪ Her time is *divided between* home, work, and school.

3 [+ *obj*] : to cause (something) to be separate or apart from something else ▪ A tall fence *divides* the two yards. — often + *from* ▪ Her cubicle is *divided from* his by a low wall. ▪ A screen *divides* (off) the dining area *from* the living room.

4 [+ *obj*] **a** : to separate (people) into groups that disagree ▪ The war *divided* the nation. ▪ The divorce *divided* the family. — often used as *(be) divided* ▪ The nation *was divided* by war. = We were a nation *divided* by war. **b** : to cause (opinions, views, etc.) to not agree — usually used as *(be) divided* ▪ Opinions on the issue *are divided*. [=people do not agree about the issue]

5 *mathematics* : to calculate how many times one number contains another number [+ *obj*] *Divide* 8 by 2. ▪ Eight *divided* by two is four. [=8 ÷ 2 = 4; 8/2 = 4] [*no obj*] The teacher taught the children how to *divide*. ▪ Two ***divides evenly into*** eight. [=eight can be divided into two an exact number of times with nothing left over] — compare MULTIPLY

divide and conquer *or* ***divide and rule*** : to make a group of people disagree and fight with one another so that they will not join together against you ▪ His military strategy is to *divide and conquer*.

[2]divide *noun, pl* **-vides** [*count*]

1 *chiefly US* : a line of hills or mountains from which rivers drain : a ridge between two rivers : WATERSHED

2 : a separation of people into two or more groups that is caused by different opinions or beliefs or by a disagreement — usually singular ▪ The argument created a *divide* within the group. — usually + *among* or *between* ▪ We must bridge the *divide among* races. ▪ the *divide between* generations

divided *adj*

1 [*more ~; most ~*] : separated by different opinions : in a state of disagreement ▪ Experts are sharply *divided* on/over

the issue. ▪ The issue has created a deeply *divided* nation.
2 : given to two or more people or things rather than to just one person or thing ▪ She feels like she only gets her mother's *divided* attention. ▪ He has ***divided loyalties***. [=he is trying to be loyal to opposing groups, ideals, etc.]

divided highway *noun, pl* ~ **-ways** [*count*] *US* : a major road that has something (such as a guardrail or an area with grass and trees) that separates lanes of traffic moving in opposite directions — called also (*Brit*) *dual carriageway*

div•i•dend /ˈdɪvəˌdɛnd/ *noun, pl* **-dends** [*count*]
1 *finance* : an amount of a company's profits that the company pays to people who own stock in the company ▪ Profits are distributed to shareholders/stockholders as *dividends*.
2 : an advantage or benefit that you get because of something you have done — usually plural ▪ Eating healthy and exercising yields big *dividends*. ▪ Our efforts are finally ***paying dividends***. [=we are finally benefiting from our efforts]
3 *mathematics* : a number that is being divided by another number ▪ In the equation 8 ÷ 2 = 4, eight is the *dividend*. — compare DIVISOR

di•vid•er /dəˈvaɪdɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers**
1 [*count*] **a** : a thing that keeps two spaces or areas separate ▪ Concrete barriers are used as highway *dividers*. **b** : someone or something that causes people to disagree with one another ▪ She has proven to be a *divider* of people. ▪ He says that he's a uniter, not a *divider*.
2 ***dividers*** [*plural*] : a tool that consists of two pointed sticks joined at the top and that is used for measuring or marking lines and angles ▪ a pair of *dividers*

dividing line *noun, pl* ~ **lines** [*count*] : a line or object that separates two areas ▪ The *dividing lines* on the street were newly painted. ▪ A fence marked the *dividing line* between the two properties. — often used figuratively ▪ the *dividing line* between right and wrong

div•i•na•tion /ˌdɪvəˈneɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the practice of using signs (such as an arrangement of tea leaves or cards) or special powers to predict the future ▪ the art of reading tea leaves and other forms of *divination*

[1]di•vine /dəˈvaɪn/ *adj*
1 : relating to or coming from God or a god ▪ *divine* will/law/love/inspiration ▪ They prayed for *divine* intervention/help. ▪ The pharaohs of ancient Egypt were considered *divine*. [=were considered to be gods] ▪ a *divine* ruler [=a ruler who is believed to be a god] ▪ *divine* beings
2 [*more* ~; *most* ~] *informal* + *somewhat old-fashioned* : very good ▪ This pie is *divine*. [=*heavenly*] ▪ You look *divine*.
– **di•vine•ly** *adv* ▪ a *divinely* inspired prophet ▪ *divinely* [=*wonderfully*] clever

[2]divine *verb* **-vines**; **-vined**; **-vin•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* + *literary* : to discover or understand (something) without having direct evidence ▪ He *divined* [=(more commonly) *sensed*] her unhappiness before she said a word. ▪ *divine* the answer to a question

di•vin•er *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]
1 *formal* + *literary* : a person who uses special powers to predict future events ▪ *Diviners* foretold of the event.
2 : a person who searches for water under the ground by using a special stick (called a divining rod) ▪ a water *diviner*

divine right *noun* [*singular*]
1 : the right that is supposedly given to a king or queen by God to rule a country ▪ He ruled by *divine right*.
2 *informal* : the right to do or have something without having to ask permission ▪ My boss seems to think he has a *divine right* to order people around.

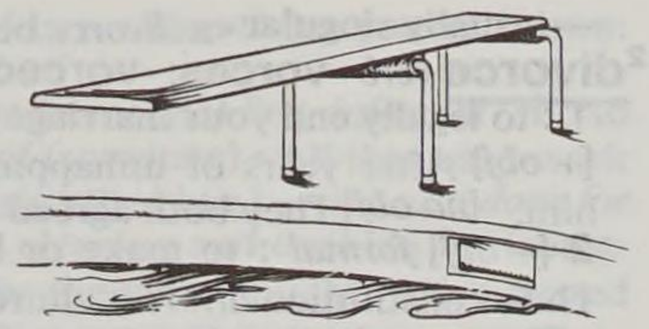
diving *noun* [*noncount*]
1 : a sport or activity in which people dive into water from a diving board or a platform ▪ He won a gold medal in *diving*.
2 : a sport or activity in which people swim underwater while using special equipment to breathe ▪ He likes deep-sea *diving*. ▪ We ***went diving*** on the coral reef. — often used before another noun ▪ *diving* equipment ▪ *diving* lessons — see also SCUBA DIVING

diving bell *noun, pl* ~ **bells** [*count*] : a large container that is open at the bottom, filled with air, and lowered into deep water to provide a dry place for underwater workers

diving board *noun, pl* ~ **boards** [*count*] : a board above a swimming pool, lake, etc., that people can jump off of to dive into the water

divining rod *noun, pl* ~ **rods** [*count*] : a stick that is usually shaped like a Y and is used by some people to search for an underground source of water — called also *dowsing rod*

di•vin•i•ty /dəˈvɪnəti/ *noun, pl* **-ties**
1 [*noncount*] : the state of being a god : the state of being divine ▪ Christians believe in the *divinity* of Jesus Christ.
2 [*count*] : a god or goddess ▪ Hindu *divinities* ▪ the *divinities* of ancient Greece
3 [*noncount*] : the formal study of religion, religious practices, and religious beliefs ▪ a doctor of *divinity* ▪ a *divinity* student ▪ She attends the ***divinity school***. [=a professional school that teaches religious subjects and trains people for religious jobs]


diving board

di•vis•i•ble /dəˈvɪzəbəl/ *adj, not used before a noun* : able to be divided ▪ 9 is *divisible* by 3 ▪ (*formal*) The piece of land is *divisible* into three small lots.

di•vi•sion /dəˈvɪʒən/ *noun, pl* **-sions**
1 : the act or process of dividing something into parts : the way that something is divided [*noncount*] the process of cell *division* [*singular*] a *division* of profits into equal shares ▪ Their society has a clear *division* of labor between men and women. [=in their society, the men do one kind of work and the women do another kind of work]
2 [*count*] : something that physically divides or separates something else — often + *between* ▪ A line of trees served as a *division between* our property and theirs.
3 [*noncount*] *mathematics* : the process of finding out how many times one number is contained in another ▪ After learning multiplication, the students were taught *division*. — see also LONG DIVISION
4 [*count*] : a group of people who do a particular job within a larger organization (such as a government, business, or school) ▪ She was transferred to a different *division* within the company. ▪ He worked for many years in the news *division* [=*department*] of a major television network.
5 [*count*] : a large military group ▪ The infantry *division* is made up of five brigades.
6 [*count*] **a** : a group of teams that form one section of a sports league ▪ There are five teams in the league's western *division*. ▪ Both *divisions* in the league have agreed to the new rules. ▪ teams that are in the first/second *division* **b** : a group of people who are similar in age, size, etc., and who compete against each other — usually singular ▪ She finished third in her *division* at the national championships. ▪ boxers competing in the heavyweight *division*
7 : a situation in which different groups, countries, etc., have different opinions, beliefs, or ways of life that separate them from each other [*count*] We're attempting to resolve the *divisions* [=*disagreements*] between our two countries. ▪ There were serious *divisions* within the party on a number of issues. ▪ The book explores the racial and economic *divisions* in/of our society. [*noncount*] The issue caused *division* within the group.
8 [*count*] : any one of the parts or groups that form something : SECTION ▪ a major *division* of the earth's surface

di•vi•sion•al /dəˈvɪʒənl̩/ *adj, always used before a noun*
1 : of or relating to a large division of a business or a branch of the military ▪ the *divisional* manager/commander
2 : of or relating to a group of teams that make up one part of a sports league ▪ the *divisional* champion/play-offs

division sign *noun, pl* ~ **signs** [*count*] *mathematics* : the symbol ÷ that is used to show that two numbers are to be divided into each other — usually singular

di•vi•sive /dəˈvaɪsɪv/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* : causing a lot of disagreement between people and causing them to separate into different groups ▪ *divisive* issues like abortion
– **di•vi•sive•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

di•vi•sor /dəˈvaɪzɚ/ *noun, pl* **-sors** [*count*] *mathematics* : the number by which another number is being divided — usually singular ▪ In the equation 8 ÷ 2 = 4, two is the *divisor*. — compare DIVIDEND

[1]di•vorce /dəˈvoɚs/ *noun, pl* **-vorc•es**
1 : the ending of a marriage by a legal process [*count*] Since getting a *divorce*, she has been raising her children alone. ▪ They went through a lengthy/messy *divorce*. [*noncount*] Their marriage ended in *divorce*. ▪ They are filing for *divorce*. [=they are filing a paper with the courts asking that their marriage be legally ended] ▪ Financial problems are a leading cause of *divorce*. — often used before another noun ▪ a *divorce* lawyer/court ▪ a high *divorce* rate ▪ *divorce* proceedings
2 [*count*] *formal* : a complete separation between two things

— usually singular ▪ a *divorce* between theory and practice

²divorce *verb* **-vorces; -vorced; -vorc•ing**

1 : to legally end your marriage with (your husband or wife) [+ *obj*] After years of unhappiness, she decided to *divorce* him. [*no obj*] They both agreed it was best to *divorce*.

2 [+ *obj*] *formal* **:** to make or keep (something) separate ▪ Their constitution *divorces* church and state. — often + *from* ▪ The organization hasn't yet fully *divorced* itself *from* its troubled past.

– divorced *adj* ▪ They're getting *divorced*. ▪ He's been *divorced* since 2003. ▪ a *divorced* man = a man who is *divorced* ▪ a theory that is completely ***divorced from reality*** [=a wrong theory that shows no connection to reality]

di•vor•cé /dəˌvoɚˈseɪ/ *noun, pl* **-cés** [*count*] *chiefly US* **:** a man who is divorced

di•vor•cée /dəˌvoɚˈseɪ/ *noun, pl* **-cées** [*count*] **:** a divorced person; *especially* **:** a woman who is divorced

div•ot /ˈdɪvət/ *noun, pl* **-ots** [*count*] **:** a loose piece of grass and dirt that is dug out of the ground when the ground is struck by something (such as a golf club)

di•vulge /dəˈvʌldʒ/ *verb* **-vulg•es; -vulged; -vulg•ing** [+ *obj*] *formal* **:** to make (information) known **:** to give (information) to someone ▪ She refused to *divulge* [=*reveal*, *tell*] the name of her informant. ▪ The company will not *divulge* its sales figures.

div•vy /ˈdɪvi/ *verb* **-vies; -vied; -vy•ing**

divvy up [*phrasal verb*] ***divvy (something) up*** *or* ***divvy up (something)*** *informal* **:** to divide or share (something) ▪ We *divvied up* the money.

Dix•ie•land /ˈdɪksiˌlænd/ *noun* [*noncount*] **:** a type of traditional American jazz music that was popular in the 1920s

DIY /ˌdi:ˌaɪˈwaɪ/ *adj, always used before a noun* **:** DO-IT-YOURSELF ▪ a *DIY* home improvement project ▪ *DIY* home repair

diz•zy /ˈdɪzi/ *adj* **diz•zi•er; -est**

1 : feeling that you are turning around in circles and are going to fall even though you are standing still ▪ The children were *dizzy* after spinning in circles. ▪ I'm feeling a bit weak and *dizzy*. I think I'm having a ***dizzy spell***.

2 : mentally or emotionally upset or confused ▪ Complex math problems make me *dizzy*. ▪ *dizzy* with anger/relief

3 *always used before a noun* **:** causing you to feel dizzy: such as **a :** very high ▪ looking down from *dizzy* heights — sometimes used figuratively ▪ She has reached the *dizzy* heights of vice president. **b :** very fast ▪ Prices rose at a *dizzy* rate. ▪ the *dizzy* pace of our lives

4 *informal* **:** very silly and tending to forget things — used especially of a woman ▪ an actress who is known for playing *dizzy* [=*ditzy*] blondes

– diz•zi•ly /ˈdɪzəli/ *adv* ▪ He staggered *dizzily* toward the couch. **– diz•zi•ness** /ˈdɪzinəs/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ This medicine may cause *dizziness* and nausea.

diz•zy•ing /ˈdɪzijɪŋ/ *adj, always used before a noun* **:** causing or likely to cause dizziness ▪ The cars move at *dizzying* speeds around the track. ▪ a *dizzying* array of choices ▪ the skyscraper's *dizzying* heights

DJ /ˈdi:ˌʤeɪ/ *noun, pl* **DJs** [*count*] **:** DISC JOCKEY

djinn /ˈʤɪn/ *variant spelling of* JINNI

DL *abbr* disabled list ▪ He was put on the *DL* for the remainder of the season.

DMV *abbr, US* Department of Motor Vehicles ▪ I'm going to the *DMV* this afternoon to get my driver's license renewed.

DMZ *abbr* demilitarized zone ▪ Forces were not allowed in the *DMZ*.

DNA /ˌdi:ˌɛnˈeɪ/ *noun* [*noncount*] **:** a substance that carries genetic information in the cells of plants and animals — often used before another noun ▪ *DNA* analysis ▪ *DNA* testing ▪ a ***DNA fingerprint*** [=a sample of a person's DNA that can be used to identify someone, such as a criminal] ▪ ***DNA fingerprinting*** ✧ *DNA* is an abbreviation of "deoxyribonucleic acid." — compare NUCLEIC ACID, RNA

¹do /ˈdu:/ *verb* **does** /ˈdʌz/; **did** /ˈdɪd/; **done** /ˈdʌn/; **do•ing** /ˈdu:wɪŋ/

1 a : to perform (an action or activity) [+ *obj*] We should *do* something special to celebrate your birthday. ▪ This crime was *done* deliberately. ▪ I have to *do* some chores this afternoon. ▪ Tell me what to *do* and I'll *do* it. ▪ I'm obliged to *do* my duty. ▪ He *does* his work without complaining. ▪ I *do* the ironing on Wednesdays and the cooking on Thursdays. [=I iron on Wednesdays and cook on Thursdays] ▪ I *did* a favor for him. = I *did* him a favor. ▪ "What do you *do* with this lever? = What does this lever *do*?" "It operates the pump." ▪ He *did* a lot for us. ▪ What can I *do* to help you? = What can I ***do for*** you? [=how can/may I help you?] ▪ What have I ***done to*** you to make you so angry? ▪ Have you ***done something to/with*** this room? [=have you changed this room in some way?] It looks different. ▪ My knee is sore. I must have ***done something to*** it [=I must have hurt it] when I fell. ▪ Don't just stand there: ***do something***! [=take some sort of action to stop what is happening] ▪ We need to ***do something about*** this problem. [=we need to take some action to correct this problem] ▪ ***All we can do*** is hope for the best. [=there is no other action we can take except to hope for the best] ▪ I didn't *do* it! = I didn't ***do anything***! [=I didn't do what you said I did] ▪ Are you ***doing anything*** right now? [=are you busy right now?] ▪ If you're ***not doing anything*** this evening [=if you're not busy this evening], why not come over for dinner? ▪ "What are you *doing* this weekend?" "I'm just relaxing at home." ▪ What is the stock market *doing* now: rising or falling? ▪ ***What have I done with*** my keys? [=where did I put my keys?] ▪ My hair is a mess. I ***can't do anything with*** it. ▪ There's ***nothing to do*** in this town on a Saturday night! [*no obj*] *Do* as I say, not as I *do*. [=do the things that I say you should do, not the things that I do myself] ▪ Shut up and ***do as you're told***! [=do what I tell you to do] **b** [+ *obj*] — used with *what* to ask or talk about a person's job ▪ "What does your husband *do*?" "He's a writer." ▪ She's a lawyer. I'm not sure what her husband *does*. ▪ What does she ***do for a living***? [=what is her job?]

2 [+ *obj*] **:** to finish working on (something) ▪ His mother won't let him watch television until he has *done* his homework. ▪ I've only *done* three of the walls so far—I'll paint the last one tomorrow. — compare ²DONE 1

3 [*no obj*] — used to describe the success or progress of someone or something ▪ "How is she *doing* in school?" "She *did* badly/poorly at first, but now she's *doing* much better." ▪ She *does* well in math but badly in history. ▪ The company is *doing* well. ▪ How is the stock market *doing* these days? ▪ He started out poor, worked hard, *did* very well (for himself) in business [=was very successful in business], and died rich. ✧ ***How are you doing?*** or (very informally) ***How you doing?*** is used as a greeting. ▪ "Hi, Dave. *How are you doing*?" "I'm fine, thanks. How are you?"

4 [+ *obj*] — used to describe the effect that something has ▪ You've been working too hard. A few days off will ***do you (some) good***. [=a few days off will be good for you] ▪ We didn't mean to ***do him (any) harm***. [=to harm him] ▪ Criticism can *do* people a lot of harm/damage; praise can *do* people a lot of good. ▪ The new design ***doesn't do much for*** me. [=I don't like the new design very much] ▪ That hat ***does nothing for you***. [=that hat does not look good on you]

5 — used to describe the amount of effort someone makes [+ *obj*] She *did* nothing to help us. [=she did not try to help us at all] ▪ I ***did my best***. = I ***did my utmost***. = I ***did all that I could***. = I ***did everything I could***. [*no obj*] I *did* as well as I could.

6 [+ *obj*] **a :** to create or produce (something) ▪ a writer who is *doing* a new biography on Abraham Lincoln ▪ a painter who has *done* some beautiful landscapes **b :** to perform in or be the producer or director of (a movie, play, etc.) ▪ an actress who has *done* several hit movies ▪ a director who is *doing* a play on Broadway

7 [+ *obj*] **a :** to play (a role or character) ▪ an actor who *did* Hamlet on Broadway **b :** to pretend to be (someone, such as a famous person) **:** to copy the speech and appearance of (someone) ▪ a comedian who *does* a great George Bush [=a comedian who does a very good and entertaining imitation of George Bush] **c** *informal* **:** to behave like (someone) ▪ I wish he'd *do* a Houdini and disappear. [=I wish he'd go away]

8 [+ *obj*] **a :** to wash or clean (something) ▪ It's your turn to *do* [=*wash*] the laundry. ▪ The woman we hired to clean our house doesn't *do* windows. **b :** to decorate (a place) ▪ They *did* the bedroom in blue and the living room in green. — see also DO OVER 2 (below) **c :** to make (someone's face, hair, etc.) more attractive by putting on makeup, etc. ▪ She wanted to *do* her face before the party. ▪ She had her hair *done* [=*styled*] at the beauty parlor. ▪ She was *doing* her fingernails/nails. **d :** to put on (makeup) ▪ It took her a few minutes to *do* her makeup.

9 [+ *obj*] **:** to cook or prepare (food) ▪ I like my steak *done* rare. ▪ I'll *do* the salad while you *do* the pasta. — compare ²DONE 2

10 [+ *obj*] **:** to make or sell (a product) ▪ This is the company's most popular computer, but they also *do* a less expensive model.

11 [+ *obj*] *chiefly US, informal* : to participate in (an activity) with other people ▪ We should ***do dinner*** some time. [=we should have dinner together some time] ▪ *do* a meeting [=have a meeting] ▪ We should *do* a movie [=go to a movie] this weekend. — see also *do lunch* at ¹LUNCH

12 [+ *obj*] : to go to (a place) when traveling ▪ a group of tourists who are *doing* [=*visiting*] 12 countries in 30 days

13 [+ *obj*] **a** : to move or travel (a distance) ▪ We *did* [=*traveled*] 500 miles yesterday. **b** : to move at (a speed) ▪ They were *doing* [=*going, driving*] 85 on the turnpike. ▪ That plane can *do* [=*go*] 1,400 mph!

14 [+ *obj*] : to be in a place for (a period of time) ▪ He *did* [=*spent*] two years in college before he dropped out.; *especially* : to be in a prison for (a period of time) ▪ He *did* [=*served*] five years (in prison) for robbery. ▪ He has been ***doing time*** in a federal penitentiary. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ I've ***done my time*** at that terrible job, and now it's time to move on.

15 a : to be enough : to be adequate [*no obj*] I don't need any more cake, thank you. One piece ***will do***. [=one piece is enough] ▪ I'd prefer to use glue, but tape ***will/would do***. [+ *obj*] (*informal*) One piece of cake *will do* me. [=one piece of cake is enough for me] **b** ✧ Phrases like ***that will do (it)*** and ***that should do (it)*** are used in informal speech to tell someone that you do not want or need anything more. ▪ "Would you like anything else?" "No, *that'll do it*." = "No, *that should do it*." *That will do it* and *that should do it* are also used to say that you have finished doing something or are about to finish doing something. ▪ I just have one more letter to sign and *that should do it*. [=and then I'll be finished] *That will do* is also sometimes used to tell someone (such as a child) to stop doing or saying something that is bothering you or making you angry. ▪ *That will do* [=*that's enough*], young man: one more word out of you and you're grounded! **c** ✧ The phrase ***that does it*** is used to say that you have finished doing something. ▪ I just need to sign one more letter . . . There, *that does it*. *That does it* is also used in angry speech to say that you will not accept or allow something anymore. ▪ "They say we'll have to wait another hour." "*That does it*! We're leaving right now!"

16 [*no obj*] : to be proper — used in negative statements ▪ It ***doesn't do*** for a doctor to become too friendly with his patients. = It ***won't/wouldn't do*** for a doctor to become too friendly with his patients. [=a doctor should not become too friendly with his patients] ▪ Such behavior will never *do*! [=such behavior should not be allowed] ▪ We should leave soon. It won't *do* to be late. ▪ This is a formal occasion, so jeans simply won't *do*. [=jeans are not appropriate] ✧ In U.S. English, this sense of *do* has a somewhat formal or old-fashioned quality. — compare ²DONE 3

17 [+ *obj*] *informal* : to use (illegal drugs) ▪ He says that he doesn't *do* drugs anymore.

18 [*no obj*] *informal* **a** : to happen ▪ Is there anything *doing* tomorrow? ▪ There is nothing *doing* around here. ▪ Let's find out ***what's doing*** downtown. **b** ✧ People ask ***what is something/someone doing . . . ?*** when they are surprised or upset about where someone or something is. ▪ *What are all my clothes doing* (lying/scattered) on the floor? [=why are all my clothes on the floor?] ▪ *What were you doing* (standing) outside in the rain? [=why were you outside in the rain?] People ask ***what is someone doing with (something)?*** when they are surprised or upset because someone has something. ▪ *What are you doing with* my notebook? = ***What do you think you're doing with*** my notebook? [=why do you have my notebook?]

19 [+ *obj*] *informal* + *offensive* : to have sex with (someone)

be to do with see HAVE TO DO WITH (below)

do a number on see ¹NUMBER

do away with [*phrasal verb*] **1** ***do away with (someone)*** : to kill (someone) ▪ She's accused of hiring a hit man to *do away with* [=*murder, do in*] her husband. **2** ***do away with (something)*** : to cause the end of (something) : to get rid of (something) ▪ The struggling company had to *do away with* a number of jobs.

do battle see ¹BATTLE

do by [*phrasal verb*] ***do by (someone)*** : to deal with or treat (someone) well or badly ▪ She feels that they *did* poorly/badly *by* her. [=that they treated her poorly/badly] ▪ They ***did pretty well by*** me when I retired. [=they treated me pretty well when I retired] — see also *hard done by* at ²HARD

do down [*phrasal verb*] ***do (someone) down*** *Brit, informal* : to talk about (someone) in an insulting or critical way ▪ She thinks that if she *does* everybody else *down*, people will think more highly of her. ▪ Stop *doing* yourself *down*: you've got a lot to offer!

do for [*phrasal verb*] ***do for (someone)*** *Brit, informal* **1** : to cause the death or ruin of (someone) ▪ All that hard work nearly *did for* him. [=nearly killed him] — see also *done for* at ²DONE **2** : to do the cleaning and cooking for (someone) ▪ Mrs. Jones *does for* the vicar now his wife's passed on.

do good see ²GOOD

do in [*phrasal verb*] ***do (someone) in*** *informal* **1 a** : to kill (someone) ▪ They threatened to *do* him *in* if he didn't pay the money he owed them. ▪ He's been so depressed lately that his friends are afraid he might ***do himself in***. [=he might kill himself] : to cause the death of (someone) ▪ He struggled with lung disease for many years, but it was a heart attack that finally *did* him *in*. **b** : to cause the failure of (someone) ▪ His inability to attract Southern voters is what finally *did* him *in* as a presidential candidate. [=he failed because he was unable to attract Southern voters] ▪ a businessman who was *done in* by greed **2** : to make (someone) very tired ▪ Working in the garden all day really *did* me *in*. = After working in the garden all day, I was/felt *done in*. [=*exhausted*] — see also *done in* at ²DONE

do it *informal* : to have sex ▪ They've kissed—but have they actually *done it*?

do justice see JUSTICE

do out of [*phrasal verb*] ***do (someone) out of (something)*** *informal* : to unfairly prevent (someone) from getting or having (something) ▪ I've been *done out of* what was rightfully mine! ▪ They *did* [=*cheated*] him *out of* his inheritance.

do over [*phrasal verb*] **1** ***do (something) over*** *US* : to do (something) again ▪ I made a mistake when I measured the window and I had to *do* it *over* (again). ▪ If I had to *do* it (all) *over* again, I would have stayed in college. **2** ***do (something) over*** *or* ***do over (something)*** : to decorate or change a room, house, etc., so that it looks very different ▪ We're planning to *do over* the kitchen next year. **3** ***do (someone) over*** *or* ***do over (someone)*** *Brit, informal* : to attack and beat (someone) ▪ He got *done over* by a gang of teenagers.

do someone proud see PROUD

do the trick see ¹TRICK

do up [*phrasal verb*] **1** ***do up (something)*** *or* ***do (something) up*** **a** : to decorate (something) ▪ They *did up* the room in bright colors for the party. = The room was all *done up* in bright colors for the party. **b** : to adjust (something, such as your hair) in a particular way ▪ She *did up* her hair in a ponytail. **c** *chiefly Brit* : to wrap (something) ▪ packages *done up* [=*wrapped up*] in paper and ribbon **d** *chiefly Brit* : to repair (something) ▪ *do up* [=*fix up*] old furniture ▪ *do up* an old house **2** ***do (someone) up*** : to dress (someone) up : to put attractive clothes, makeup, etc., on (someone) ▪ She really ***did herself up*** for the party. = She was all *done up* for the party. **3** ***do up*** *or* ***do (something) up*** *or* ***do up (something)*** *of clothing* : to be fastened or to fasten (something) with buttons, a zipper, etc. ▪ a dress that *does up* at the back = a dress that is *done up* at the back ▪ She *did up* her dress. ▪ buttons that *do up* easily = buttons that you can *do up* easily [=buttons that can be easily buttoned]

do well ✧ If you ***would do well*** to do something, you should do it. ▪ You *would do well* to avoid him right now. [=you should avoid him right now] If you ***did well*** to do something, you were correct to do it. ▪ You *did well to avoid* him when he was in a bad mood. If you ***did well to escape, survive***, etc., you were lucky to escape, survive, etc. ▪ When the tornado hit, they *did well to escape* uninjured.

do with [*phrasal verb*] ***do with (something)*** : to be helped by having (something) ▪ I ***could (really) do with*** a cup of hot coffee right now! [=I could use a cup of coffee; I would like/appreciate a cup of coffee] ▪ I *could do with* a little less criticism right now, if you don't mind!

do without [*phrasal verb*] ***do without*** *or* ***do without (something or someone)*** : to not have (something) : to live, work, etc., without having (something) ▪ If you can't afford a new car, you'll just have to *do without* (one). ▪ I don't know how we ever *did without* computers. ▪ I'd like to get a new car, but I can *do without* it for now. ✧ The phrase ***can/could do without*** is often used to say that you do not like or approve of something. ▪ I enjoy traveling, but I *can do without* having to wait around in crowded airports. [=I don't like having to wait around] ▪ He was late again. That's the kind of selfish behavior I *could do without*.

do your bit see ¹BIT

easy does it see ²EASY

have to do with **1** *or chiefly Brit* ***be to do with*** **a :** to relate to (something) : to be about (something) ▪ The problem *has to do with* fishing rights. = (*chiefly Brit*) The problem *is to do with* fishing rights. ▪ "What does her husband do?" "I think ***it has something to do with*** computers." = "I think ***it's got something to do with*** computers." [=it involves computers in some way] **b :** to relate to or involve (someone) ▪ That's your problem: ***it has nothing to do with*** me! = (*chiefly Brit*) *It's nothing to do with* me! [=it doesn't involve me in any way; it's not my problem] ▪ You're wrong. ***It's got everything to do with*** you: you're legally responsible for what went wrong. **2 :** to be involved in or in some way responsible for (something) ▪ He claims that he ***had nothing to do with*** the accident. = He claims that he ***didn't have anything to do with*** the accident. [=that he was not involved in the accident] ▪ He claims he wasn't involved, but I know he ***had something to do with*** it. **3** ✧ If you do not want to ***have anything to do with*** someone or if you ***want nothing to do with*** someone, you do not want to be involved with that person in any way. ▪ She thinks he's a liar and she refuses to *have anything to do with* him. [=she refuses to talk to him, to see him, etc.] ▪ After the way he's treated me, I *want nothing (further) to do* with him. = I *don't want (to have) anything (further) to do* with him.

how do you do? see ¹HOW

make do see ¹MAKE

nothing doing see ¹NOTHING

– compare ²DO

²do *verb* **does**; **did**; **doing**; *negative forms* **do not** *or* **don't**; **did not** *or* **didn't**; **does not** *or* **doesn't** [*auxiliary verb*]

1 a — used before the subject in a question ▪ *Do* you play the piano? ▪ How well *do* you play the piano? ▪ What *did* he say? ▪ What *does* her husband do for a living? ▪ When *does* the train leave? **b** — used to form brief questions (called tag questions) that come at the end of a statement ▪ You play the piano, *don't* you? ▪ So you play the piano, *do* you? ▪ Her husband works with computers, *doesn't* he?

2 a — used with *not* to form negative statements ▪ I *do not* know. = I *don't* know. ▪ I *don't* believe anything he says. **b** — used with *not* to form commands ▪ *Do not* lie to me! = (more commonly) *Don't* lie to me! ▪ *Don't* touch the stove. ▪ *Don't* be afraid. Everything will be all right. **c** *somewhat formal* — used before the subject in a statement after words like *never*, *seldom*, and *rarely* ▪ *Never did* he see his native land again. [=he never saw his native land again] ▪ *Seldom do* we experience such joy! [=we seldom experience such joy]

3 — used to replace another verb or verb phrase ▪ "May I come in?" "Yes, (please) *do*." ▪ You work harder than I *do*. ▪ "Do you play the piano?" "No, I *don't*, but my sister *does*." ▪ He works hard and I *do*, too. = He works hard and so *do* I. ▪ Don't touch the stove: if you *do*, you'll burn yourself! ▪ She asked me to open the window, which I *did*. = What I *did* was (to) open the window when she asked me to. ▪ (*informal*) "Can you finish it by tomorrow?" "Sure, boss, ***will do***!" [=I will finish it by tomorrow] ▪ (*informal*) "Can you finish it by tomorrow?" "Sorry, boss, ***no can do***!" [=I can't finish it by tomorrow] ▪ (*Brit*) "Are you going to the party?" "I might *do*." [=I might] ▪ (*Brit*) He can work hard and I can *do* too. [=I can too] ▪ (*Brit*) Would you mind feeding the dog if nobody else already has *done*? [=if nobody else already has]

4 a — used to make a statement stronger ▪ You really *do* look lovely today! ▪ "It hurts!" "Well, I *did* warn you it would sting a little!" ▪ I never *did* like him much. ▪ Oh, *do* be quiet! **b** *somewhat formal* — used as a polite way to tell or urge someone to do something ▪ *Do* come in and have a seat. ▪ *Do* come and see us again soon. ▪ *Do* be careful.

– compare ¹DO

³do *noun, pl* **dos** [*count*] *informal*

1 : something that a person should do — usually used in the phrase ***dos and don'ts*** ▪ She told her daughter about the *dos and don'ts* of dating. [=about the things that she should and should not do when dating someone]

2 *US* **:** a way of cutting and arranging a person's hair : HAIRDO ▪ She was worried that the wind might mess up her *do*.

3 : a party or social gathering ▪ We threw a big *do* for her after graduation.

– compare ⁴DO

⁴do /ˈdoʊ/ *or chiefly Brit* **doh** *noun* [*noncount*] **:** the first note of a musical scale ▪ *do*, re, mi, fa, sol, la, ti — compare ³DO

DOA *abbr* dead on arrival ✧ In U.S. English, people who are dead when brought to a hospital are said to be *DOA*. ▪ The patient was *DOA*. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ Because of budget cuts, the proposed park is *DOA*.

do•able /ˈduːwəbəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] **:** able to be done ▪ It will be difficult, but it's still *doable*.

DOB *abbr* date of birth

Do•ber•man pin•scher /ˌdoʊbəmənˈpɪnʃə/ *noun, pl* ~ **-schers** [*count*] **:** a type of tall, thin, muscular dog with short hair that is usually black and tan — called also *Doberman*

doc /ˈdɑːk/ *noun, pl* **docs** [*count*] *informal* **:** DOCTOR ▪ Am I going to be OK, *doc*?

doc. *abbr* document

doc•ile /ˈdɑːsəl, *Brit* ˈdəʊˌsaɪl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] **:** easily taught, led, or controlled ▪ His students were *docile* and eager to learn. ▪ a *docile*, well-behaved pet

– **doc•ile•ly** *adv* ▪ The horses behaved *docilely*. – **do•cil•i•ty** /dɑˈsɪləti, *Brit* dəʊˈsɪləti/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ This breed is known for its gentleness and *docility*.

¹dock /ˈdɑːk/ *noun, pl* **docks**

1 a : an area of water in a port where ships are loaded, unloaded, or repaired [*count*] A crowd was waiting at the *dock* to greet them. [*noncount*] The ship is ***in dock*** for repairs. — see also DRY DOCK **b *the docks*** **:** the area in a town or city that has rows of docks, offices, and other buildings ▪ We went down to *the docks* to watch the ships come in.

2 [*count*] *US* **:** a long structure that is built out into water and used as a place to get on, get off, or tie up a boat ▪ Tie the boat to the *dock*.

3 [*count*] *US* **:** a place for loading materials onto ships, trucks, trains, etc. ▪ a ***loading dock***

4 [*count*] **:** the place in a court of law where a person who is accused of a crime stands or sits during a trial

in the dock **:** on trial for committing a crime ▪ He was arrested and is *in the dock* on charges of assault and battery.

²dock *verb* **docks**; **docked**; **dock•ing**

1 : to bring a ship or boat into a dock [*no obj*] We spent two days at sea before *docking* in Miami, Florida. [+ *obj*] The captain was forced to *dock* the ship.

2 : to join together (two spacecraft) while in space [*no obj*] The shuttle was scheduled to *dock* with the space station. [+ *obj*] They *docked* the spaceship with the satellite.

3 [+ *obj*] **:** to connect an electronic device (such as a computer or a digital camera) to another device ▪ You can *dock* the camera directly to the printer and download the pictures. ▪ The handheld PC can be *docked* into/with your desktop computer. ▪ a *docking* station

– compare ³DOCK

³dock *verb* **docks**; **docked**; **dock•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to take away part of (the money that is paid to someone) ▪ Her boss *docked* her pay/wages for coming in late.

2 : to cut off the end of (an animal's tail) ▪ The puppy's tail was *docked*.

– compare ²DOCK

dock•er /ˈdɑːkə/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *Brit* **:** DOCKWORKER

dock•et /ˈdɑːkət/ *noun, pl* **-ets** [*count*] *US*

1 : a list of the legal cases that will be tried in a court of law ▪ The judge had to postpone some of the cases ***on the docket***.

2 : a list of things to do or discuss ▪ The new library will be the first item ***on the committee's docket***. [=on the committee's agenda]

dock•land /ˈdɑkˌlænd/ *noun, pl* **-lands** *Brit* **:** the part of a port where there are docks [*noncount*] an area of *dockland* [*count*] an old *dockland* — called also *docklands*

dock•side /ˈdɑːkˌsaɪd/ *noun* [*singular*] **:** the area along a shore next to a dock ▪ The fish are unloaded at *dockside* and taken right to the market. — often used before another noun ▪ *dockside* warehouses/restaurants

dock•work•er /ˈdɑːkˌwəkə/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *US* **:** a person who loads and unloads ships at a port : LONGSHOREMAN

dock•yard /ˈdɑːkˌjɑəd/ *noun, pl* **-yards** [*count*] **:** a place where ships are built and repaired : SHIPYARD

¹doc•tor /ˈdɑːktə/ *noun, pl* **-tors** [*count*] ✧ The abbreviation *Dr.* is usually used in writing when *doctor* is being used as a title for a specific person. ▪ I have an appointment with *Dr.* Brown.

1 a : a person who is skilled in the science of medicine : a person who is trained and licensed to treat sick and injured people ▪ I think you should see a *doctor*. [=*physician*] ▪ He needed medicine but refused to go to a *doctor*. ▪ a visit to the *doctor's* office = a *doctor's* visit ▪ She was under *doctor's* orders not to return to work. ▪ Most of her money goes to paying ***doctors' bills***. [=bills for visits to doctors and medical

treatment] **b** ***the doctor*** *or* ***the doctor's*** : the place where a doctor works ▪ I saw her at *the doctor's* last week. ▪ How long will you be at *the doctor*?

2 *US* **a** : a dentist — used chiefly as a title or as a form of address ▪ My dentist is *Dr.* Smith. **b** : a person who is trained to treat sick and injured animals : VETERINARIAN ▪ an animal *doctor* — used chiefly as a title or as a form of address ▪ We took our dog to *Dr.* Jones.

3 : a person who has the highest degree (such as a PhD) given by a university ▪ Most of the faculty members at this college are *doctors* in their fields. ▪ a *Doctor* of Philosophy ▪ *Dr.* Smith, can you explain the exam requirements again?

just what the doctor ordered *informal* : exactly what is wanted or needed ▪ A day at the beach was *just what the doctor ordered*. — see also SPIN DOCTOR, WITCH DOCTOR

²doctor *verb* **-tors; -tored; -tor•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to change (something) especially in order to trick or deceive people ▪ They were accused of *doctoring* the company's financial records. ▪ a *doctored* photo of the actress

2 : to add something (such as alcohol or drugs) to (a food or drink) ▪ I think somebody *doctored* the punch.

3 : to give medical treatment to (an injury, a person, etc.) ▪ He had time to *doctor* his wounds. ▪ She *doctored* the sick child until the physician arrived.

doc•tor•al /ˈdɑːktərəl/ *adj, always used before a noun* : of or relating to the highest degree that is given by a university ▪ a *doctoral* degree ▪ He wrote his *doctoral* dissertation/thesis on William Shakespeare. ▪ *doctoral* candidates [=students trying to earn their doctorates] — see also POSTDOCTORAL

doc•tor•ate /ˈdɑːktərət/ *noun, pl* **-ates** [*count*] : the highest degree that is given by a university ▪ She got a job teaching at the university after earning her *doctorate*. [=*PhD*]

doc•tri•naire /ˌdɑːktrəˈneɚ/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* + *disapproving* — used to describe a person who has very strong beliefs about what should be done and will not change them or accept other people's opinions ▪ The senator is less *doctrinaire* than generally believed. ▪ a *doctrinaire* conservative/socialist

doc•trine /ˈdɑːktrən/ *noun, pl* **-trines**

1 : a set of ideas or beliefs that are taught or believed to be true [*count*] The government was founded on a *doctrine* of equality for all people. ▪ Many psychologists now question the *doctrines* of Sigmund Freud. [*noncount*] teaching religious *doctrine* to young people

2 [*count*] *US* : a statement of government policy especially in international relations ▪ the Truman/Monroe *doctrine*

– **doc•tri•nal** /ˈdɑːktrənl, *Brit* dɒkˈtraɪnl/ *adj* ▪ The group split into two parties as a result of *doctrinal* differences.

– **doc•tri•nal•ly** *adv*

do•cu•dra•ma /ˈdɑːkjəˌdrɑːmə/ *noun, pl* **-mas** [*count*] : a movie that is usually made for television and that tells a story about real events that have happened recently ▪ They are making a *docudrama* about the controversial court case.

¹doc•u•ment /ˈdɑːkjəmənt/ *noun, pl* **-ments** [*count*]

1 : an official paper that gives information about something or that is used as proof of something ▪ It is important to keep all of your financial *documents* in a safe place. ▪ legal/official/historical *documents* ▪ An important classified *document* has been leaked to the media.

2 : a computer file that contains text that you have written ▪ creating a new *document* on your computer ▪ I lost the *document* when the hard drive crashed.

²doc•u•ment /ˈdɑːkjəˌmɛnt/ *verb* **-ments; -ment•ed; -ment•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to create a record of (something) through writing, film, photography, etc. ▪ Her study was the first to *document* this type of behavior in gorillas. ▪ He wrote a book *documenting* their struggle.

2 : to prove (something) by using usually written evidence ▪ Can you *document* the claims you're making? ▪ The charges are well/fully *documented*.

– **doc•u•ment•able** /ˈdɑːkjəˌmɛntəbəl/ *adj* ▪ *documentable* evidence

¹doc•u•men•ta•ry /ˌdɑːkjəˈmɛntri/ *noun, pl* **-ries** [*count*] : a movie or television program that tells the facts about actual people and events ▪ We watched a *documentary* on the early history of jazz. — often used before another noun ▪ a *documentary* filmmaker ▪ She has produced several award-winning *documentary* films.

²documentary *adj, always used before a noun* : consisting of documents : written down ▪ You must present *documentary* proof of your residence. ▪ *documentary* evidence

doc•u•men•ta•tion /ˌdɑːkjəmənˈteɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 : the documents, records, etc., that are used to prove something or make something official ▪ You cannot visit the country unless you have the proper *documentation*. ▪ Keep your receipts as *documentation* of your purchases. ▪ written *documentation* ▪ Can you provide *documentation* of the claims you're making?

2 : written instructions for using a computer or computer program ▪ The program's *documentation* is poorly written.

DOD *abbr, US* Department of Defense

dod•der•ing /ˈdɑːdərɪŋ/ *adj* : walking and moving in a slow and unsteady way because of old age ▪ a *doddering* old man

dod•dle /ˈdɑːdl/ *noun* [*singular*] *Brit, informal* : something that is very easy to do ▪ This machine makes cleaning your home a *doddle*. [=*cinch*]

¹dodge /ˈdɑːdʒ/ *verb* **dodg•es; dodged; dodg•ing**

1 a [+ *obj*] : to move quickly to one side in order to avoid being hit by (someone or something) ▪ He *dodged* the first punch but was hit by the second. ▪ *dodging* traffic **b** *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [*no obj*] : to move quickly in order to avoid being hit, seen, stopped, etc. ▪ She *dodged* through the crowds as she hurried home. ▪ He *dodged* [=*ducked*] behind the bushes. ▪ We *dodged* between the cars as we raced across the street.

2 [+ *obj*] : to get away from or avoid (someone or something) in a skillful or dishonest way ▪ She *dodged* [=*evaded*] the question by changing the subject. ▪ They managed to *dodge* the reporters by leaving through the back exit. ▪ She accused him of *dodging* his responsibilities as a parent. ▪ Many young men tried to ***dodge the draft*** [=to avoid being drafted into the military] by leaving the country.

dodge a/the bullet *chiefly US, informal* : to barely avoid being hit or affected by something harmful ▪ The island *dodged a bullet* when the hurricane turned south.

²dodge *noun, pl* **dodges** [*count*] : a clever or dishonest trick done in order to avoid something ▪ It was just another *dodge* to get out of working. ▪ a tax *dodge*

dodge•ball /ˈdɑːdʒˌbɑːl/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a game in which players try to hit their opponents with an inflated ball in order to get them removed from the game

dodg•em car /ˈdɑːdʒəm-/ *noun, pl* ~ **cars** [*count*] *Brit* : BUMPER CAR

dodg•er /ˈdɑːdʒɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a person who avoids doing something by being dishonest ▪ tax *dodgers* [=*evaders*] ▪ a ***draft dodger*** [=a person who illegally avoids being drafted into the military]

dodgy /ˈdɑːdʒi/ *adj* **dodgier; -est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~] *chiefly Brit, informal*

1 a : false or dishonest ▪ *dodgy* business deals ▪ a *dodgy* insurance claim **b** : causing a lack of trust or confidence ▪ I heard he has a pretty *dodgy* [=*questionable*] reputation.

2 : in bad condition ▪ The car's got a *dodgy* engine. ▪ my *dodgy* knees

3 : difficult or risky ▪ They got into a *dodgy* situation.

do•do /ˈdoʊˌdoʊ/ *noun, pl* **-does** *or* **-dos** [*count*]

1 : a type of bird that lived in the past and that was large, heavy, and unable to fly

2 *US, informal* + *humorous* : a stupid or silly person ▪ That *dodo* can't do anything right. ▪ I feel like a complete *dodo*.

(as) dead as a dodo see ¹DEAD

doe /ˈdoʊ/ *noun, pl* **does** *or* **doe** [*count*] : a female animal (such as a deer, rabbit, or kangaroo) — compare BUCK; see also JANE DOE, JOHN DOE

doe–eyed /ˈdoʊˌaɪd/ *adj* : having large eyes that make you look innocent ▪ a *doe-eyed* little boy

do•er /ˈduːwɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a person who actively does things instead of just thinking or talking about them ▪ I'm more of a thinker than a *doer*.

does see DO

doesn't /ˈdʌzn̩t/ — used as a contraction of *does not* ▪ She *doesn't* like cake. ▪ This shirt *doesn't* fit.

doff /ˈdɑːf/ *verb* **doffs; doffed; doff•ing** [+ *obj*] *old-fashioned* : to take off or remove (a hat or a piece of clothing) ▪ He *doffed* his cap as he introduced himself. ▪ They *doffed* their coats when they came inside.

¹dog /ˈdɑːg/ *noun, pl* **dogs**

1 [*count*] **a** : a type of animal that is often kept as a pet or trained to work for people by guarding buildings, hunting, etc. ▪ That *dog* barks all day long. ▪ children playing with the family *dog* ▪ a guard *dog* ▪ a hunting *dog* ▪ wild *dogs* such as the Australian dingo — often used before another noun ▪ a

dog collar ▪ *dog* food/shows ▪ I'm not really a *dog* person. [=I don't particularly like dogs] **b** : a male dog

2 [*count*] *informal* **a** : a person who is regarded as lucky, unlucky, etc. ▪ You lucky *dog*! — see also TOP DOG **b** : a person who is lazy or who is not liked ▪ He's a lazy *dog*. ▪ He's a worthless *dog*. [=*bum*] **c** *offensive* : an unattractive girl or woman ▪ They say she's a real *dog*.

3 [*count*] *US, informal* : something that is poor in quality ▪ Her latest book turned out to be a real *dog*. ▪ That was a *dog* of a movie.

4 [*count*] *US, informal* : HOT DOG ▪ Would you like another *dog*? — see also CHILI DOG, CORN DOG

5 dogs [*plural*] *US, informal + old-fashioned* : FEET ▪ My *dogs* were tired from standing all day.

a dog's breakfast *Brit, informal* : something that is messy or poorly done ▪ It was *a dog's breakfast* of a match, and our coach was understandably upset.

a dog's life : a difficult, boring, and unhappy life ▪ Everyone knows it's *a dog's life* in this business.

(as) sick as a dog *informal* : very sick ▪ I'm *sick as a dog*.

dog and pony show *US, usually disapproving* : a very fancy and elaborate event that is done to sell something, to impress people, etc. ▪ The sales presentation was a real *dog and pony show*.

every dog has his/its day *informal* — used to say that every person has a successful moment in life

go to the dogs *informal* : to become ruined : to change to a much worse condition ▪ Our favorite restaurant has *gone to the dogs* lately. ▪ The economy is *going to the dogs*.

hair of the dog (that bit you) see HAIR

in a dog's age see [1]AGE

let sleeping dogs lie : to ignore a problem because trying to deal with it could cause an even more difficult situation ▪ I thought about bringing up my concerns but decided instead to *let sleeping dogs lie*.

put on the dog *US, informal + old-fashioned* : to pretend that you are very stylish or rich ▪ They really *put on the dog* for their daughter's wedding.

rain cats and dogs see [2]RAIN

the tail wagging the dog see [1]TAIL

you can't teach an old dog new tricks — used to say that a person who is old or is used to doing things in a certain way cannot learn or does not want to learn a new way ▪ I tried to get my mother to start using a computer, but she says *you can't teach an old dog new tricks*.

[2]dog *verb* **dogs**; **dogged**; **dog·ging** [+ *obj*]

1 : to follow (someone) very closely ▪ He *dogged* her every move.

2 : to ask (someone) about something or for something constantly or frequently ▪ Creditors *dogged* him until he finally paid his bills. ▪ Reporters kept *dogging* [=*pestering*] her for information.

3 : to cause problems for (someone) for a long time — often used as *(be) dogged* ▪ His career *has been dogged* [=*plagued*] by controversy. ▪ an athlete *dogged* by injuries [=an athlete who has had many injuries]

dog biscuit *noun, pl* ~ **-cuits** [*count*] : a hard, dry cracker for dogs

dog·catch·er /'dɑ:g,kɛʧɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *US* : a public official who is responsible for catching dogs that do not have homes — called also (*Brit*) *dog warden*

dog days *noun* [*plural*] : the hottest time of the year ▪ The kids used to go swimming every afternoon during the *dog days* of summer.

dog–eared /'dɑ:g,iɚd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : having some pages with the top corners folded down ▪ All I had was a few old *dog-eared* copies of my favorite books. ▪ a *dog-eared* magazine — sometimes used figuratively ▪ *dog-eared* jokes [=old jokes that have been told many times]

dog–eat–dog /,dɑ:g,i:t'dɑ:g/ *adj* — used to describe a situ-

dog



pug



dachshund



Chihuahua



Yorkshire terrier



poodle



Shetland sheepdog, sheltie



cocker spaniel



beagle



boxer



husky



Labrador retriever, Labrador



Rottweiler



German shepherd, Alsatian (*Brit*)



golden retriever

ation in which people compete with each other for success in a cruel and selfish way ▪ It's a *dog-eat-dog* business we're in. ▪ *dog-eat-dog* competitions

dog•fight /ˈdɑːgˌfaɪt/ *noun, pl* **-fights** [*count*]
1 : a fight between dogs
2 : a fight between fighter planes that are flying close to each other ▪ He was shot down in a *dogfight* over enemy territory.
3 : a fierce fight or struggle between people or groups ▪ The election has turned into a real *dogfight*.

dog•ged /ˈdɑːgəd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : having or showing the attitude of a person who wants to do or get something and will not stop trying : stubborn and determined ▪ Her *dogged* efforts eventually paid off. ▪ a *dogged* pursuit of power
– **dog•ged•ly** *adv* ▪ He worked *doggedly* to maintain his lead. ▪ The press *doggedly* pursues him wherever he goes.
– **dog•ged•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

dog•ger•el /ˈdɑːgərəl/ *noun* [*noncount*] : poetry that is poorly written and that often is not meant to be taken seriously ▪ a few lines of *doggerel*

doggie bag *also* **doggy bag** *noun, pl* ~ **bags** [*count*] : a bag that is used for carrying home food that is left over from a meal eaten at a restaurant

[1]dog•gone /ˈdɑːgˈgɑːn/ *interj, US, informal + somewhat old-fashioned* — used as a more polite form of *damn* ▪ *Doggone*! That hurt!

[2]doggone *verb, US, informal + somewhat old-fashioned* [+ *obj*] — used as a more polite form of *damn* ▪ ***Doggone it***! I forgot my keys! ▪ Listen to me, *doggone* it! ▪ (I'll be) ***Doggoned if*** he didn't leave early. [=I'm surprised that he left early]

[3]doggone *or* **doggoned** /ˈdɑːgˈgɑːnd/ *adj, US, informal + somewhat old-fashioned* — used as a more polite form of *damn* ▪ Those *doggone* kids stepped on our flowers! ▪ He didn't do a *doggone* thing today. ▪ It's a *doggone* shame that you missed it. ▪ If you believe that, you're a *doggoned* fool!
– **doggone** /ˈdɑːgˈgɑːn/ *or* **doggoned** /ˈdɑːgˈgɑːnd/ *adv* ▪ What's so *doggone* funny? ▪ She's too *doggoned* skinny.

dog•gy *or* **dog•gie** /ˈdɑːgi/ *noun, pl* **-gies** [*count*] *informal* : a dog ✧ *Doggy* is used especially by children or when talking to children. ▪ Oh, what a cute little *doggy*!
– **doggy** *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ a *doggy* smell

dog•house /ˈdɑːgˌhaʊs/ *noun, pl* **-hous•es** [*count*] *US* : an outdoor shelter with a roof for a dog
in the doghouse *informal* : in a bad situation because someone is angry at you : in trouble ▪ He's *in the doghouse* with his wife [=his wife is angry at him] for being late.

dog•leg /ˈdɑːgˌlɛg/ *noun, pl* **-legs** [*count*] : a place where a road, golf course, etc., bends or turns sharply ▪ a sharp *dogleg* to the left
– **dogleg** *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ *dogleg* fairways
– **dogleg** *verb* **-legs**; **-legged**; **-leg•ging** [*no obj*] ▪ a fairway that *doglegs* to the left

dog•ma /ˈdɑːgmə/ *noun, pl* **-mas** [*count, noncount*] *formal*
1 *usually disapproving* : a belief or set of beliefs that is accepted by the members of a group without being questioned or doubted ▪ These new findings challenge the current *dogma* in the field. ▪ political *dogma*
2 : a belief or set of beliefs that is taught by a religious organization

dog•mat•ic /dɑgˈmætɪk/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *disapproving* : expressing personal opinions or beliefs as if they are certainly correct and cannot be doubted ▪ She's become so *dogmatic* lately that arguing with her is pointless. ▪ *dogmatic* critics ▪ *dogmatic* statements
– **dog•mat•i•cal•ly** /dɑgˈmætɪkli/ *adv* [*more* ~; *most* ~]
– **dog•ma•tism** /ˈdɑːgməˌtɪzəm/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ moral/religious/political *dogmatism* – **dog•ma•tist** /ˈdɑːgmətɪst/ *noun, pl* **-tists** [*count*] ▪ a political *dogmatist* [=a person with dogmatic political opinions]

do–good•er /ˈduːˌgʊdɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *disapproving* : someone whose desire and effort to help people (such as poor people) is regarded as wrong, annoying, useless, etc. ▪ He dismisses his critics as a bunch of politically correct *do-gooders*.

dog–paddle *also* **doggy–paddle** *verb* **-pad•dles**; **-paddled**; **-pad•dling** [*no obj*] : to swim like a dog with your head above water and your arms and legs paddling under the water ▪ When she first learned to swim, all she could do was *dog-paddle*.
– **dog paddle** *also* **doggy paddle** *noun* [*singular*] ▪ doing a/the *dog paddle*

dog•sled /ˈdɑːgˌslɛd/ *noun, pl* **-sleds** [*count*] *chiefly US* : a type of sled that is pulled by dogs
– **dogsled** *verb* **-sleds**; **-sled•ded**; **-sled•ding** [*no obj*] He *dogsledded* across the tundra. [+ *obj*] They *dogsledded* supplies to the fort. – **dogsledding** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ She likes to ***go dogsledding*** in the winter.

dog tag *noun, pl* ~ **tags** [*count*] : a small, thin piece of metal that is worn around the neck of an American soldier and that lists the soldier's name, service number, and other information

dog–tired *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *informal* : very tired : EXHAUSTED ▪ I was *dog-tired* and ready for bed.

dog warden *noun, pl* ~ **-dens** [*count*] *Brit* : DOGCATCHER

dog•wood /ˈdɑːgˌwʊd/ *noun, pl* **-woods**
1 [*count*] : a type of bush or small tree with groups of small flowers ▪ We planted two *dogwoods*. ▪ a *dogwood* tree
2 [*noncount*] : the hard wood of a dogwood ▪ The furniture is made of *dogwood*.

doh *chiefly Brit spelling of* [4]DO

DoH *abbr, Brit* Department of Health

d'oh /ˈdoʊ/ *interj, informal + humorous* — used when you realize that you have just said or done something stupid or foolish

doi•ly /ˈdɔɪli/ *noun, pl* **-lies** [*count*] : a usually round cloth or paper that has a decorative pattern made of many small holes ✧ Doilies are typically placed on top of something (such as a piece of furniture) to protect it or for decoration. ▪ She placed a lace *doily* under the vase.

do•ing /ˈduːwɪŋ/ *noun, pl* **-ings**
1 [*noncount*] : the act of making something happen through your own action ▪ It's the *doing* of the good deed that is important, not the thanks you receive. ✧ Informal phrases like ***take a bit of doing***, ***take some doing***, and ***take a lot of doing*** are used to say that something is difficult to do and requires a lot of effort or work. ▪ Finishing the work on time may *take a bit of doing*. ▪ It will *take some doing* to win the game. ▪ Getting the project done on time will *take a lot of doing*. ✧ If something is ***your doing***, you did it. ▪ Is this mix-up *your doing*? [=did you cause the mix-up?] ▪ The surprise party was not all *our doing*; we had lots of help.
2 ***doings*** [*plural*] : things that someone does ▪ I've been reading about the governor's latest *doings*. [=*activities*] : things that happen ▪ There have been some strange *doings* [=*goings-on, occurrences*] lately.

do–it–yourself *adj, always used before a noun* : of or relating to work (such as fixing or building something) that you do yourself instead of hiring someone to do it ▪ a *do-it-yourself* [=*DIY*] home improvement project ▪ *do-it-yourself* home repair ▪ *do-it-yourself* stores [=stores where you buy materials to fix or build things]
– **do–it–your•self•er** *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] ▪ a how-to guide for *do-it-yourselfers*

do•jo /ˈdoʊʤoʊ/ *noun, pl* **-jos** [*count*] : a school for teaching people karate, judo, etc.

Dol•by /ˈdɑːlbi, ˈdoʊlbi/ *trademark* — used for an electronic device that removes unwanted noise from recorded or broadcast sound

dol•drums /ˈdoʊldrəmz/ *noun* [*plural*]
1 : a state or period of sadness or depression ▪ We watched movies to fight off the winter *doldrums*. — often used in the phrase ***in the doldrums*** ▪ She has been *in the doldrums* since her best friend moved away.
2 : a state or period in which there is no activity or improvement ▪ The company is slowly climbing out of its economic *doldrums*. — often used in the phrase ***in the doldrums*** ▪ The market is *in the doldrums*.

[1]dole /ˈdoʊl/ *noun* [*noncount*] : money that a government (especially the British government) gives to people who do not have jobs or who are very poor ▪ *dole* money — usually used as ***the dole*** ▪ The government is changing the rules for receiving *the dole*. [=(*US*) *welfare*] ▪ They've been ***on/off the dole*** for a year. ▪ They're going *on/off the dole*.

[2]dole *verb* **doles**; **doled**; **dol•ing**
dole out [*phrasal verb*] ***dole out (something)*** *also* ***dole (something) out*** : to give (something) to people ▪ She is always *doling out* advice on relationships. ▪ The organization has *doled out* millions of dollars in grants. ▪ The nurse *doles* the pills *out* carefully. ▪ The agency *doles out* [=*hands out, distributes*] food to thousands of needy families each year.

dole•ful /ˈdoʊlfəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : very sad ▪ The girl had a *doleful* look/expression on her face. ▪ You sounded so *doleful* about your future that night.

– **dole·ful·ly** *adv*

[1]doll /ˈdɑːl/ *noun, pl* **dolls** [*count*]
1 : a child's toy in the form of a baby or small person ▪ The child was busy playing with her (baby) *dolls*. ▪ My aunt collects porcelain *dolls*. — see also RAG DOLL
2 *chiefly US, informal* : a kind and helpful person — usually singular ▪ Thanks for the help. You're a *doll*. [=*dear*]
3 *informal + old-fashioned* : a woman; *especially* : an attractive woman ✧ This sense of *doll* is now often considered offensive especially when it is used as a way to address a woman.

[2]doll *verb* **dolls**; **dolled**; **doll·ing**
doll up [*phrasal verb*] ***doll (yourself) up*** *informal* : to make (yourself) attractive with makeup and fancy or stylish clothes ▪ She *dolled herself up* for the party. = She ***got (all) dolled up*** for the party.

dol·lar /ˈdɑːlɚ/ *noun, pl* **-lars**
1 [*count*] **a** : a basic unit of money in the U.S., Canada, Australia, and other countries that is equal to 100 cents ▪ The shirt costs 20 *dollars*. [=$20] ▪ She had to pay hundreds of *dollars* in auto repairs. ▪ The property is worth a million *dollars*. = It's a million-*dollar* property. ▪ Do you have a 20-*dollar bill*? [=a twenty] ▪ It costs 500 pesos. How much is that ***in dollars***? [=how many dollars equals 500 pesos?] **b** : a bill or coin that is worth one dollar ▪ I found a *dollar* on the sidewalk. = I found a ***dollar bill*** on the sidewalk. ▪ She put a wrinkled *dollar* down on the counter. — see also HALF-DOLLAR, TOP DOLLAR
2 ***the dollar*** *technical* : the value of a dollar when it is compared to another unit of money ▪ *The dollar* dropped sharply against the pound. ▪ the strength/weakness of *the dollar* ▪ *The dollar* is worth more in Mexico.
3 [*count*] : money that is from a specified source or used for a specified purpose ▪ You want to know how the state spends every federal *dollar* [=money from the federal government] it receives? — usually plural ▪ Should a program like this be paid for with tax/taxpayer *dollars*? [=with money the government collects through taxes] ▪ tourist/tourism *dollars* [=money that an economy gets because of the money tourists spend there] ▪ The company needs to invest its advertising *dollars* wisely.
bet your bottom dollar see [2]BET
look/feel like a million dollars see MILLION
– see also SAND DOLLAR

dollar sign *noun, pl* ~ **signs** [*count*] : a symbol $ placed before a number to show that it represents an amount of dollars — often used figuratively ▪ Where other people saw junk, she ***saw dollar signs***. [=she saw a way to earn money] ▪ investors with ***dollar signs in their eyes*** [=investors who want very much to earn money]

doll·house /ˈdɑːlˌhaʊs/ *noun, pl* **-hous·es** [*count*] *US* : a small toy house that is used by children for playing with dolls — called also (*Brit*) *doll's house*

dol·lop /ˈdɑːləp/ *noun, pl* **-lops** [*count*]
1 : a small amount of soft food ▪ My piece of pie was served with a *dollop* of whipped cream. ▪ a *dollop* of ketchup
2 : a usually small amount of something ▪ A *dollop* of milk was left in the container. ▪ large *dollops* of wit and humor

doll's house *noun, pl* **dolls' houses** [*count*] *Brit* : DOLLHOUSE

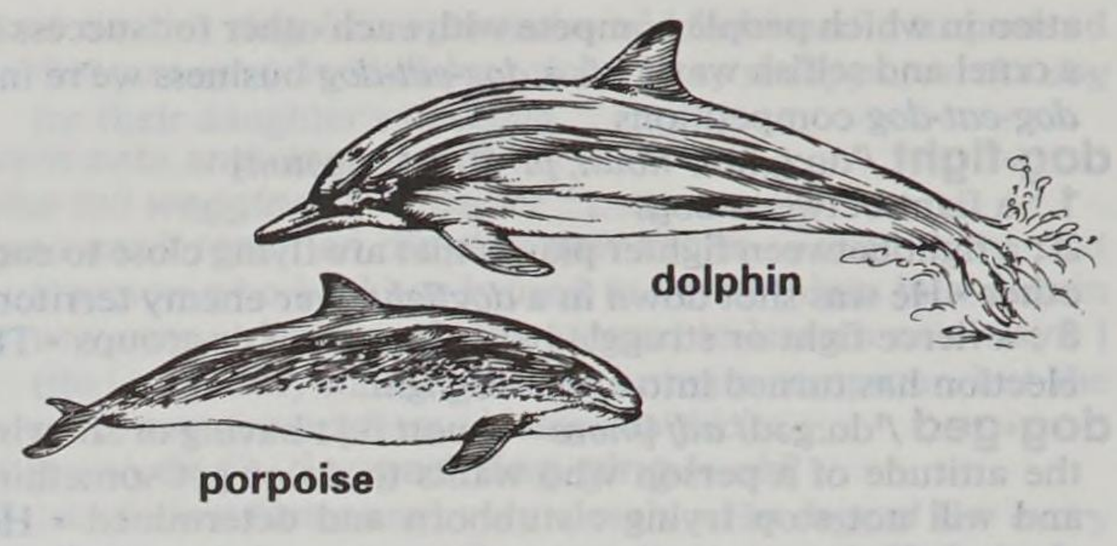
dol·ly /ˈdɑːli/ *noun, pl* **-lies** [*count*]
1 : a child's toy doll ✧ *Dolly* is usually used by children or by adults speaking to children.
2 : a piece of equipment that has wheels and that is used for moving heavy objects ▪ We'll need a *dolly* to move the refrigerator.

dol·men /ˈdoʊlmən, ˈdɑːlmən/ *noun, pl* **-mens** [*count*] *technical* : an ancient structure made of two or more upright stones and a single stone lying across them ✧ Dolmens are believed to be tombs.

dol·phin /ˈdɑːlfən/ *noun, pl* **-phins** [*count*] : a small usually gray whale that has a pointed nose — compare PORPOISE

dolt /ˈdoʊlt/ *noun, pl* **dolts** [*count*] *informal* : a stupid person ▪ What a *dolt* I've been!
– **dolt·ish** /ˈdoʊltɪʃ/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ a *doltish* person ▪ *doltish* behavior

-dom /dəm/ *noun suffix*
1 : the state of being (something) ▪ free*dom*
2 : the rank of ▪ duke*dom*
3 : the area ruled by ▪ king*dom*
4 : the group having a specified job, position, interest, or character ▪ official*dom*



do·main /doʊˈmeɪn/ *noun, pl* **-mains** [*count*]
1 : the land that a ruler or a government controls : TERRITORY ▪ The forest is part of the king's *domain*. ▪ the British/Ottoman imperial *domain* — see also EMINENT DOMAIN, PUBLIC DOMAIN
2 : an area of knowledge or activity ▪ My sister is the math expert in the family, but literature is my *domain*. ▪ Childcare is no longer solely a female *domain*. — often + *of* ▪ Federal crimes are outside the *domain of* city police.
3 *computers* **a** : a section of the Internet that is made up of computers or sites that are related in some way (such as by use or source) ✧ An abbreviation of an Internet site's domain (such as .gov, .org, and .com) is included in its address: www.Merriam-Webster.com. **b** : DOMAIN NAME

domain name *noun, pl* ~ **names** [*count*] *computers* : the characters (such as Merriam-Webster.com or Whitehouse.gov) that form the main part of an Internet address

dome /ˈdoʊm/ *noun, pl* **domes** [*count*]
1 : a large rounded roof or ceiling that is shaped like half of a ball ▪ the *dome* of the Capitol building ▪ the church's high *dome*
2 : a structure that looks like the dome of a building ▪ a *dome* of ice
3 : a stadium that is covered by a roof ▪ The team's new stadium is a *dome*.
4 *informal* : a person's head ▪ He wears a hat to protect his bald *dome* from the summer sun.

domed /ˈdoʊmd/ *adj* : shaped like or covered with a dome ▪ The dog's skull is slightly *domed*. ▪ a *domed* ceiling/church/stadium

[1]do·mes·tic /dəˈmɛstɪk/ *adj*
1 : of, relating to, or made in your own country ▪ the *domestic* economy/market ▪ foreign and *domestic* affairs/policy ▪ international and *domestic* politics ▪ The company hopes to attract both foreign and *domestic* investors. ▪ The wine is *domestic*. ▪ *domestic* and imported cheeses ▪ The airline only offers *domestic* flights. [=flights to and from places within the country] — opposite FOREIGN
2 *always used before a noun* : relating to or involving someone's home or family ▪ *domestic* happiness ▪ His *domestic* [=*home*] life was not very happy. ▪ *domestic* abuse/violence [=physical harm done to a member of a family or household by another member of the same family or household]
3 a *always used before a noun* : relating to the work (such as cooking and cleaning) that is done in a person's home ▪ *domestic* chores/duties/work/services/help ▪ a *domestic* worker/servant [=a worker/servant who is hired to work in someone's home] **b** [*more* ~; *most* ~] — used to describe a person who enjoys work and activities that are done at home ▪ I'm not a *domestic* person. ▪ She is not very *domestic*. **c** *always used before a noun* : used in the home ▪ *domestic* furniture/appliances
4 *of an animal* : living with people : bred or trained to need and accept the care of human beings : DOMESTICATED ▪ The wolf is related to the *domestic* dog. ▪ wild and *domestic* cats ▪ *domestic* animals/cattle
– **do·mes·ti·cal·ly** /dəˈmɛstɪkli/ *adv* ▪ It is a *domestically* produced wine. ▪ *Domestically*, the economy is not doing well.

[2]domestic *noun, pl* **-tics** [*count*]
1 *old-fashioned* : a servant who is hired to work in someone's home : a domestic servant
2 *Brit, informal* : a fight between members of a family or household ▪ She got in a *domestic* with her husband.

do·mes·ti·cate /dəˈmɛstəˌkeɪt/ *verb* **-cates**; **-cat·ed**; **-cat·ing** [+ *obj*]
1 a : to breed or train (an animal) to need and accept the care of human beings : to tame (an animal) ▪ Humans have *domesticated* dogs/cattle/chickens. ▪ Horses and oxen have

been *domesticated* to work on farms. **b** : to grow (a plant) for human use ▪ Native Americans *domesticated* corn.
2 *humorous* : to train (someone) to behave in an appropriate way at home (such as by using good manners, being polite, being helpful, etc.) ▪ She jokes that dogs are easier to *domesticate* than men.
– **domesticated** *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] ▪ *domesticated* animals – **do·mes·ti·ca·tion** /dəˌmɛstəˈkeɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ the *domestication* of animals

do·mes·tic·i·ty /ˌdoʊˌmɛˈstɪsəti/ *noun* [*noncount*] *formal* : life inside a home : the activities of a family or of the people who share a home ▪ We got married and settled into a life of comfortable *domesticity*.

domestic partner *noun, pl ~* **-ners** [*count*] *US, formal* : a person you live with and have a sexual relationship with but are not married to ✧ *Domestic partner* is usually used in legal situations. ▪ The organization is trying to get tax and insurance benefits for *domestic partners*.
– **domestic partnership** *noun, pl ~* **-ships** [*count*] ▪ People in *domestic partnerships* qualify for insurance benefits.

domestic science *noun* [*noncount*] *old-fashioned* : HOME ECONOMICS

dom·i·cile /ˈdɑːməˌsajəl/ *noun, pl* **-ciles** *law* : the place where you live : your home [*noncount*] You will need to report your change of *domicile* to your insurance company. [*count*] Students must establish a *domicile* in the state to be eligible for reduced tuition.

dom·i·ciled *adj, not used before a noun, law* : living or established in a particular place ▪ The defendant/corporation is *domiciled* in Texas. ▪ students *domiciled* outside the state

dom·i·nant /ˈdɑːmənənt/ *adj*
1 [*more ~; most ~*] : more important, powerful, or successful than most or all others ▪ The university has/plays a *dominant* [=*major*] role in the local economy. ▪ Money is the *dominant* [=*main*] force in consumer societies. ▪ The company is now *dominant* in its market. ▪ What is the *dominant* [=*major, predominant*] theme of the play? ▪ It is the *dominant* culture/tribe in the region. ▪ She has a very *dominant* [=*domineering*] personality. ▪ the *dominant* female/male of the pack
2 : most common ▪ the *dominant* [=*prevailing*] language/religion of the country
3 *biology* : causing or relating to a characteristic or condition that a child will have if one of the child's parents has it ▪ *dominant* genes ▪ Brown hair is a *dominant* trait. = Brown hair is *dominant*. — opposite RECESSIVE
– **dom·i·nance** /ˈdɑːmənəns/ *noun* [*noncount*] The companies are competing for *dominance* in the market. = The companies are competing for market *dominance*. ▪ military/political *dominance* [=*predominance*] ▪ male *dominance* [=the state of men or male animals having more power than women or female animals] ▪ the French language's *dominance* in the region = the regional *dominance* of the French language [*singular*] The company has established a *dominance* in the market. ▪ the team's *dominance* over its rivals ▪ a neighborhood with a *dominance* [=*predominance*] of older homes – **dom·i·nant·ly** *adv* ▪ The population is *dominantly* [=(more commonly) *predominantly*] Catholic. ▪ a *dominantly* inherited disease

dom·i·nate /ˈdɑːməˌneɪt/ *verb* **-nates**; **-nat·ed**; **-nat·ing**
1 [+ *obj*] : to have control of or power over (someone or something) ▪ The king dreamed of *dominating* [=*ruling*] the world. ▪ One company has *dominated* the market for years. ▪ Men *dominate* the field. = It's a male-*dominated* field. ▪ He *dominated* her life for many years.
2 [+ *obj*] : to be the most important part of (something) ▪ His work *dominated* the art scene last year. ▪ The business *dominated* her life. [=most of her life/time was devoted to the business] ▪ The topic of her arrest *dominated* the conversation. [=most of the conversation was about her arrest]
3 : to be much more powerful or successful than others in a game, competition, etc. [*no obj*] Our team *dominated* throughout the game. [+ *obj*] Our team *dominated* play throughout the game. ▪ She *dominated* the match.
4 [*no obj*] : to be most common ▪ Pine trees *dominate* in the eastern part of the forest. ▪ French *dominates* throughout the region, but German is also spoken.
5 [+ *obj*] : to be the largest or most noticeable object in (a place) ▪ The statue *dominates* the town's square. ▪ The room was *dominated* by a large table.
– **dominating** *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] ▪ He has had a *dominating* influence in her life. ▪ a very *dominating* team – **dom·i·na·tion** /ˌdɑːməˈneɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ The king had dreams of world *domination*. ▪ market *domination* – **dom·i·na·tor** /ˈdɑːməˌneɪtɚ/ *noun, pl* **-tors** [*count*] ▪ The company is a market *dominator*.

do·mi·na·trix /ˌdɑːmɪˈneɪtrɪks/ *noun, pl* **-tri·ces** /-trəˌsiːz/ *also* **-trix·es** [*count*] : a woman who controls and hurts her partner during sexual activity in order to give her partner sexual pleasure

dom·i·neer·ing /ˌdɑːməˈnɪrɪŋ/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] : tending too often to tell people what to do : often trying to control the behavior of others ▪ a *domineering* [=*controlling*] parent ▪ Their manager is much too *domineering*. [=(*informal*) *bossy*]

Do·min·i·can /dəˈmɪnɪkən/ *noun, pl* **-cans** [*count*] : a member of a Roman Catholic group of friars founded in 1215 by St. Dominic
– **Dominican** *adj* ▪ the *Dominican* order ▪ *Dominican* friars

do·min·ion /dəˈmɪnjən/ *noun, pl* **-ions** *formal*
1 [*noncount*] : the power to rule : control of a country, region, etc. ▪ The U.S. has/holds *dominion* over the island. ▪ The countries fought for *dominion* of the territory. ***synonyms*** see [1]POWER
2 [*count*] : the land that a ruler or government controls ▪ The whole island is the king's *dominion*. [=*domain*] ▪ the *dominions* of the empire
3 ***Dominion*** [*count*] : a country that was part of the British Empire but had its own government ✧ Countries that were formerly Dominions are now members of the Commonwealth.

dom·i·no /ˈdɑːməˌnoʊ/ *noun, pl* **-noes** *or* **-nos**
1 [*count*] : a small flat rectangular block made of wood or plastic that has one or more dots on one side and that is used in playing games
2 ***dominoes*** [*noncount*] : a game played with dominoes ▪ *Dominoes* is one of my favorite games.

domino effect *noun* [*singular*] : a situation in which one event causes a series of similar events to happen one after another ▪ The delay created a *domino effect* [=*ripple effect*], disrupting deliveries around the country.

[1]don /ˈdɑːn/ *noun, pl* **dons** [*count*]
1 *Brit* : a teacher in a college or university; *especially* : a teacher at Oxford or Cambridge University
2 *informal* : a powerful Mafia leader

[2]don *verb* **dons**; **donned**; **don·ning** [+ *obj*] *formal + old-fashioned* : to put on (a piece of clothing) ▪ He *donned* his gloves and hat. ▪ She *donned* her jacket.

do·nate /ˈdoʊˌneɪt, doʊˈneɪt/ *verb* **-nates**; **-nat·ed**; **-nat·ing**
1 : to give (money, food, clothes, etc.) in order to help a person or organization [+ *obj*] The computers were *donated* by local companies. ▪ We *donated* our old clothes to charity. ▪ people who *donate* money to political candidates ▪ He *donates* some of his free time to volunteer work. [*no obj*] Everyone is encouraged to *donate*.
2 : to give (blood, a body organ, etc.) to a hospital or other medical organization so that it can be given to someone who needs it [+ *obj*] People are encouraged to *donate* blood. ▪ Please sign this form if you would like to *donate* your organs when you die. [*no obj*] You can *donate* at the blood bank every eight weeks.
– **do·na·tor** /ˈdoʊˌneɪtɚ, doʊˈneɪtɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ors** [*count*] ▪ The *donators* [=(more commonly) *donors*] of the money did not give their names.

do·na·tion /doʊˈneɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**
1 : something (such as money, food, clothes, etc.) that you give in order to help a person or organization [*count*] All *donations* are appreciated. ▪ They thanked her for the generous *donation*. [=*gift*] ▪ The organization is funded by private *donations*. ▪ Would you like to ***make a donation***? [=make a contribution; give money] [*noncount*] We are grateful for the *donation* of whatever you can afford to give.
2 : something (such as blood or a body organ) that you give to a hospital or clinic so that it can be given to someone who needs it [*count*] blood/organ *donations* [*noncount*] trying to encourage the *donation* of blood/organs

[1]done *past participle of* [1]DO

[2]done *adj, not used before a noun*
1 — used to say that an activity, job, etc., has ended ▪ One more question and we're *done*. ▪ He'll travel many miles before he's *done*. [=*through*] ▪ My work is never *done*. [=*finished, completed*] ▪ I'm (almost) *done* reading this book. ▪ Turn out the light when you're *done*. ▪ Are you *done* with the scissors? ▪ When will you ***be done with*** [=*finish, complete*] the

project? = (*Brit*) When will you ***have done with*** the project? • Just call her and ***be done with it***. [=*get it over with*] = (*Brit*) Just call her and ***have done with it***. — compare [1]DO 2

2 : cooked completely or enough • The cake is *done*. • Check to see if the meat is *done*. — see also OVERDONE, UNDERDONE, WELL-DONE

3 : socially acceptable or fashionable • Getting a divorce just wasn't *done* at the time.

consider it done see CONSIDER

done for *informal* **1** : in a very bad situation : certain to fail, lose, be punished, etc. • If she finds out we cheated, we're *done for*. [=*in trouble*] • We'll never catch up now. We're *done for*. **2** : certain to die or be killed • When we saw the explosion, we thought she was *done for*. — see also *do for* 1 at [1]DO

done in *informal* : very tired • After working in the garden all day, I was/felt completely *done in*. [=*exhausted*] — see also *do in* 2 at [1]DO

hard done by see [2]HARD

no harm done see [1]HARM

over and done with see [1]OVER

when all is said and done see [3]ALL

[3]done *interj* — used to say that you agree with the conditions of a deal or accept an offer • "I'll offer you $5,000 for the car." "*Done*."

done deal *noun* [*singular*] *informal* : something that has been done and that cannot be changed • It's a *done deal*. • The sale is far from a *done deal*. [=it is very possible that it will not happen]

done•ness /ˈdʌnnəs/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the state of being cooked completely or enough • Cover the pan and cook to (the) desired *doneness*.

Don Juan /ˈdɑːnˈwɑːn/ *noun, pl* ~ **Juans** [*count*] : a man who has sexual relationships with many women • She was wined and dined by the local *Don Juan*. [=*Casanova*]

don•key /ˈdɑːŋki/ *noun, pl* **-keys** [*count*] : an animal that is like a small horse with large ears

donkey work *noun* [*noncount*] *chiefly Brit, informal* : hard work that is not interesting • I had to do the *donkey work*.

donkey's years *noun* [*plural*] *chiefly Brit, informal* : a very long time • It's been *donkey's years* [=*ages*] since I saw her.

don•nish /ˈdɑːnɪʃ/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *chiefly Brit* : like a typical don (sense 1) • a *donnish* [=*bookish*] manner • a *donnish* old professor

don•ny•brook /ˈdɑːniˌbrʊk/ *noun, pl* **-brooks** [*count*]

1 : a public argument • a political *donnybrook* [=*dispute*] • A *donnybrook* has erupted over the court's decision.

2 : an uncontrolled fight • A *donnybrook* [=*brawl, free-for-all*] broke out at the end of the game.

do•nor /ˈdoʊnɚ/ *noun, pl* **-nors** [*count*]

1 : a person or group that gives something (such as money, food, or clothes) in order to help a person or organization • The money was raised from individual *donors*. • She is one of the charity's/cause's major *donors*.

2 : a person who gives something (such as blood or a body organ) so that it can be given to someone who needs it • blood/organ *donors* • a kidney *donor* • a *donor* organ • a ***donor card*** [=a card that says that you want to donate your organs when you die]

[1]do–noth•ing /ˈduːˌnʌθɪŋ/ *adj, always used before a noun*

1 : not willing to work, help, etc. : LAZY • a *do-nothing* husband

2 : failing to achieve or do anything important • a *do-nothing* policy/government/politician

[2]do–nothing *noun, pl* **-ings** [*count*] *informal* : someone who is lazy • He's a no-good *do-nothing*.

[1]don't /ˈdoʊnt/ — used as a contraction of *do not* • I *don't* like it. • The shoes *don't* fit.

> ***usage*** *Don't* is also sometimes used as a contraction of "does not." • She *don't* like it. This use is usually regarded as an error, but it is common in the very informal speech of some people. It is often used in stories in the speech of characters who do not have much education.

[2]don't *noun, pl* **don'ts** [*count*] *informal* : something that a person should not do — usually used in the phrase ***dos and don'ts*** • We each got a long list of *dos and don'ts*. [=things we should and should not do]

donut *chiefly US spelling of* DOUGHNUT

doo•bie /ˈduːbi/ *noun, pl* **-bies** [*count*] *US slang* : a marijuana cigarette • He lit up a *doobie*. [=*joint*]

doo•dad /ˈduːˌdæd/ *noun, pl* **-dads** [*count*] *US, informal*

1 : a usually small object that is used as a decoration — usually plural • a shelf cluttered with *doodads* [=*knickknacks*]

2 : a small useful device : GADGET — usually plural • The shop sells all kinds of nifty *doodads*.

doo•dah /ˈduːˌdɑː/ *noun, pl* **-dahs** [*count*] *Brit, informal* : DOODAD 2

doo•dle /ˈduːdl/ *verb* **doo•dles**; **doo•dled**; **doo•dling** [*no obj*] : to draw something without thinking about what you are doing • She *doodled* in her notebook instead of taking notes.

– **doodle** *noun, pl* **doodles** [*count*] • Her notebook was full of *doodles*.

doo–doo /ˈduːˌduː/ *noun* [*noncount*] *informal* : solid waste discharged from the body • I stepped in dog *doo-doo*. [=*poop*]

in deep doo-doo *informal* : in a very bad situation • If the car won't start, we're *in deep doo-doo*. [=*in deep trouble*]

doo•fus /ˈduːfəs/ *noun, pl* **-fus•es** [*count*] *US slang* : a stupid or foolish person • Don't be such a *doofus*.

doo•hick•ey /ˈduːˌhɪki/ *noun, pl* **-eys** [*count*] *US, informal* : an object or device whose name you do not know or have forgotten • I need one of those *doohickeys* [=*thingamajigs, whatchamacallits*] with the long handles.

[1]doom /ˈduːm/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 : very bad events or situations that cannot be avoided • The sailors had a sense/feeling of (impending) *doom* as the storm approached. [=they sensed or felt that something very bad was going to happen] • The ***prophets of doom*** [=people who predict that bad things will happen] say that the Internet will kill off print newspapers. • The papers are filled with stories of ***gloom and doom***.

2 : death or ruin • the story of a mysterious creature who lures travelers to their *doom* • Prepare to ***meet your doom***. [=*die*] • The poor economy ***spelled doom*** for many small businesses. [=many small businesses would fail because of the poor economy]

[2]doom *verb* **dooms**; **doomed**; **doom•ing** [+ *obj*] : to make (someone or something) certain to fail, suffer, die, etc. • A criminal record will *doom* your chances of becoming a politician. — usually used as *(be) doomed* • The plan *was doomed* from the start. • The treaty *is doomed* [=*destined*] to failure/fail. • If no one rescues us, we *are doomed*. • a project *doomed* by the poor/weak economy • The species *is doomed* to extinction.

– **doomed** *adj* • a *doomed* plan/mission/ship

doom•say•er /ˈduːmˌsejɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : someone who predicts that bad things will happen • Don't listen to the *doomsayers*.

dooms•day /ˈduːmzˌdeɪ/ *noun* [*singular*] : the day the world ends or is destroyed • a warning that *doomsday* is near • *doomsday* predictions • The book explores a ***doomsday scenario*** in which an asteroid hits the Earth. • a ***doomsday machine*** [=a machine that will destroy the world] • It'll be like that ***from now until doomsday***. [=for a very long time; forever]

doom•ster /ˈduːmstɚ/ *noun, pl* **-sters** [*count*] *Brit, informal* : DOOMSAYER

door /ˈdoɚ/ *noun, pl* **doors** [*count*]

1 a : a movable piece of wood, glass, or metal that swings or slides open and shut so that people can enter or leave a room, building, vehicle, etc. • open/shut/slam/lock/bolt the *door* • I heard a knock on/at the *door*. • the bedroom/bathroom/cellar *door* • The car has four *doors*. = It's a four-*door* car. • Leave the package at the front/back/side *door*. [=the door at the front/back/side of the house, building, etc.] • Can you ***answer the door***? [=open the door to see who is knocking on the door or ringing the doorbell] • Is somebody ***at the door***? [=knocking on the door or ringing the doorbell] • Let me open the *door* for you. = (*US*) Let me ***get the door*** for you. • (*US*) Can you *get the door*? [=can you open or close the door for me?] My hands are full. • an ***exterior/outside door*** [=a door that can be used to enter or leave a building] • an ***interior door*** [=a door inside a building; a door that connects rooms] • a ***garage door*** [=a large door that covers the opening through which a car enters and leaves a garage] • turn/pull the ***door handle*** • a large brass ***door knocker*** [=*knocker*] — see also BACK DOOR, DUTCH DOOR, FRENCH DOOR, REVOLVING DOOR, STORM DOOR, TRAPDOOR **b** : a part of an object (such as piece of furniture or an appliance) that swings or slides open and shut • the cupboard/closet/refrigerator/oven *door*

2 : the opening for a door : the entrance to a room or building : DOORWAY • Please don't block the *door*. • I peeked

through the open *door*. • He stood at/before the *door*. • He greeted his guests as they ***came in/through the door***. = He greeted his guests ***at the door***. • She ***walked out the door*** [=*left*] without saying goodbye. • standing (just/right) ***inside/outside the door*** [=inside/outside the room, building, etc., near the door]

3 : a house, building, apartment, office, etc. — used with an adverb to indicate where something is in relation to something else • She lives in a house two ***doors down/up*** from me. [=there is one house between our houses] • The library is a ***few doors down*** from the bank. [=there are several buildings between the library and the bank] • We grew up ***two doors apart***. [=with one house/apartment between our houses/apartments] ✧ If you do something ***(from) door to door***, you do it at each of the houses, apartments, or buildings in an area. • Girl Scouts are selling cookies *door to door*. = Girl Scouts are ***going door to door*** selling cookies. • She *went (from) door to door* looking for her cat. — see also DOOR-TO-DOOR, NEXT DOOR

4 — used especially with *open* or *unlock* to describe an opportunity or possibility • The grant will *open* new *doors* for our town. [=will give our town new opportunities] • The discovery may *unlock* the *door* to a cure for the disease. • The *door* is *open* (to you) if you want a better job. • A good education can *open/unlock* the *door* of success. [=can make success possible] • The patent on the product has expired, which ***leaves the door open for*** [=makes it possible for] other companies to make it. — see also OUT OF DOORS

at death's door see DEATH

behind closed doors see CLOSED

close the door on : to no longer think about, consider, or accept (something) • I'd like to *close the door on* that chapter in my life. • The former senator says she hasn't *closed the door on* politics. • Don't *close the door on* your options.

close your doors **1** : to not allow someone to enter • The country has *closed its doors* to immigrants. **2** *of a business or organization* : to close permanently : to stop operating • The museum may be forced to *close its doors*. • The store *closed its doors* (for the last time) last fall.

darken someone's door/doors see DARKEN

get your foot in the door see ¹FOOT

keep the wolf from the door see ¹WOLF

lay the blame for (something) at someone's door : to blame someone for (something) • They *laid the blame for* the book's failure *at my door*.

open doors for see ²OPEN

open the door see ²OPEN

open your doors **1** : to allow someone to enter • The country has *opened its doors* to immigrants. • local churches that *open their doors* to the homeless in the winter months [=that let homeless people stay there] **2** *of a business or organization* : to open for business : to begin operating • The new store will be *opening its doors* next month.

show (someone) the door : to tell or force (someone) to leave • We don't tolerate bad behavior. If you cause trouble, we'll *show you the door*. • If the coach doesn't win this year, they'll *show him the door*. [=they'll fire him]

show/see (someone) to the door : to go to the door with (someone who is leaving) • My secretary will *show you to the door*. [=*show you out*]

– **doorless** *adj* • a *doorless* cubicle

door•bell /ˈdoɚˌbɛl/ *noun, pl* **-bells** [*count*] : a bell inside a house or building that is rung usually by pushing a button beside an outside door • We ***rang the doorbell*** until someone came to let us in.

do–or–die /ˈduːwɚˈdaɪ/ *adj*

1 *always used before a noun* : very determined • Her *do-or-die* attitude is inspiring.

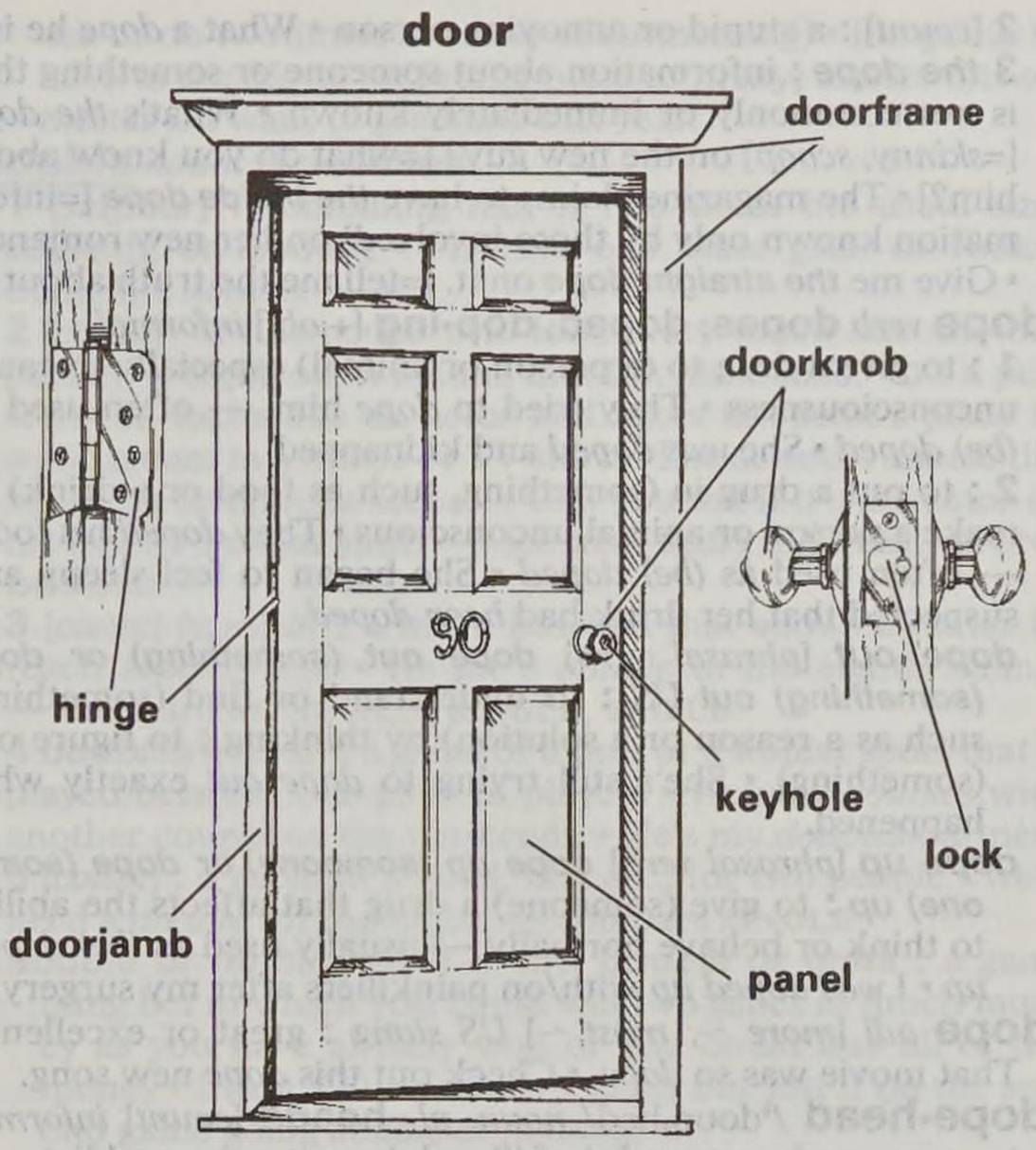
2 — used to describe a situation in which you have to do something or you will fail, lose, etc. • With only 10 seconds left, this is a *do-or-die* situation for the team. If they don't score, the game is over. • It is *do-or-die* for the team.

door•frame /ˈdoɚˌfreɪm/ *noun, pl* **-frames** [*count*] : a door's frame : the structure around the opening of a door

door•jamb /ˈdoɚˌʤæmb/ *noun, pl* **-jambs** [*count*] : an upright piece that forms the side of a door's frame

door•keep•er /ˈdoɚˌkiːpɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : someone who guards a door and checks people to see if they are allowed to enter the building

door•knob /ˈdoɚˌnɑːb/ *noun, pl* **-knobs** [*count*] : a round handle that you turn to open a door — see pictures at DOOR, KNOB



door•man /ˈdoɚˌmæn/ *noun, pl* **-men** /-ˌmɛn/ [*count*] : a person (especially a man) whose job is to stand next to the main door of a building (such as a hotel or apartment building) and help people by opening the door, calling taxis, etc.

door•mat /ˈdoɚˌmæt/ *noun, pl* **-mats** [*count*]

1 : a mat that you put on the floor or ground on one side of a door so that people can wipe the bottoms of their shoes on it

2 *informal* : someone who is treated badly by other people and does not complain • She was tired of being a *doormat* and decided it was time to stand up for herself.

door•nail /ˈdoɚˌneɪl/ *noun*

(as) dead as a doornail see ¹DEAD

door•post /ˈdoɚˌpoʊst/ *noun, pl* **-posts** [*count*] : DOORJAMB

door prize *noun, pl* ~ **prizes** [*count*] *US* : a prize that you get at a social event if you were given the winning ticket when you arrived

door•step /ˈdoɚˌstɛp/ *noun, pl* **-steps** [*count*] : a step or series of steps leading up to one of the doors that is used to enter or leave a building • We sat on the *doorstep*. • The police were at my *doorstep*. — often used figuratively • The beach is right at your *doorstep*. [=the beach is very close] • Bars and restaurants are on the *doorstep* of the hotel. [=bars and restaurants are very close to the hotel] — see picture at HOUSE

door•stop /ˈdoɚˌstɑːp/ *noun, pl* **-stops** [*count*]

1 : an object that is attached to a wall or the floor to prevent a door from hitting and damaging the wall

2 : something (such as a wedge or weight) that is used to hold a door open

door–to–door /ˌdoɚtəˈdoɚ/ *adj, always used before a noun* : going or made by going to each house, apartment, or building in an area • a *door-to-door* salesman • a *door-to-door* survey — see also *(from) door to door* at DOOR

door•way /ˈdoɚˌweɪ/ *noun, pl* **-ways** [*count*]

1 : the opening where a door is • Please don't block the *doorway*. • She stepped through the *doorway*. • the castle's arched *doorways* — sometimes used figuratively • We hope that these talks will be a *doorway* to peace. [=will lead to peace]

2 : the space in front of a door • He stood in the *doorway*, wondering if he should go in. • Homeless people sleep in the *doorways* of the shops.

door•yard /ˈdoɚˌjɑɚd/ *noun, pl* **-yards** [*count*] *US* : a yard next to the door of a house • flowers blooming in the *dooryard* • *dooryard* gardens

doo–wop /ˈduːˌwɑːp/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a style of popular music that involves singing nonsense syllables

doo•zy *or* **doo•zie** /ˈduːzi/ *noun, pl* **-zies** [*count*] *US, informal* : something that is unusually good, bad, big, severe, etc. • They say the snowstorm tonight is going to be a *doozy*. • Watch out for that first step. It's a *doozy*. • Some of her comments have been real *doozies*. • a *doozy* of a year

¹dope /ˈdoʊp/ *noun, pl* **dopes** *informal*

1 [*noncount*] : an illegal drug (such as marijuana or heroin) • They were caught smoking *dope*. • a *dope* addict/dealer

2 [*count*] : a stupid or annoying person ▪ What a *dope* he is.
3 ***the dope*** : information about someone or something that is not commonly or immediately known ▪ What's *the dope* [=*skinny, scoop*] on the new guy? [=what do you know about him?] ▪ The magazine claims to have ***the inside dope*** [=information known only by those involved] on her new romance. ▪ Give me ***the straight dope*** on it. [=tell me the truth about it]

[2]dope *verb* **dopes**; **doped**; **dop•ing** [+ *obj*] *informal*
1 : to give a drug to (a person or animal) especially to cause unconsciousness ▪ They tried to *dope* him. — often used as *(be) doped* ▪ She *was doped* and kidnapped.
2 : to put a drug in (something, such as food or a drink) to make a person or animal unconscious ▪ They *doped* his food. — often used as *(be) doped* ▪ She began to feel sleepy and suspected that her drink had *been doped*.
dope out [*phrasal verb*] ***dope out (something)*** *or* ***dope (something) out*** *US* : to understand or find (something, such as a reason or a solution) by thinking : to figure out (something) ▪ She's still trying to *dope out* exactly what happened.
dope up [*phrasal verb*] ***dope up (someone)*** *or* ***dope (someone) up*** : to give (someone) a drug that affects the ability to think or behave normally — usually used as *(be) doped up* ▪ I *was doped up* with/on painkillers after my surgery.

[3]dope *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *US slang* : great or excellent ▪ That movie was so *dope*. ▪ Check out this *dope* new song.

dope•head /ˈdoʊpˌhɛd/ *noun, pl* **-heads** [*count*] *informal* : a person who uses a lot of illegal drugs : a drug addict

dop•ey /ˈdoʊpi/ *adj* **dop•i•er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~] *informal*
1 a : feeling the effects of a drug ▪ I'm still a little *dopey* from the painkillers. **b** : slow because you are tired ▪ After being up all night I was pretty *dopey* at work.
2 : foolish or stupid ▪ a *dopey* movie ▪ He's a little *dopey*.

doping *noun* [*noncount*] : the illegal use of a drug (such as a steroid) to improve an athlete's performance ▪ increased efforts to detect *doping* at the Olympic Games ▪ *doping* tests/scandals — see also BLOOD DOPING

dop•pel•gän•er *or* **dop•pel•gang•er** /ˈdɑːpəlˌgæŋgɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]
1 : someone who looks like someone else ▪ I saw your *doppelgänger* [=(more commonly) *double*] yesterday.
2 *literary* : a ghost that looks like a living person ▪ In the story, the character is haunted by a *doppelgänger*.

Dopp•ler radar /ˈdɑːplɚ-/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a radar system that is used especially for predicting the weather

do–rag /ˈduːˌræg/ *noun, pl* **-rags** [*count*] *US, informal* : a piece of cloth that is worn on the head to cover the hair

dork /ˈdoɚk/ *noun, pl* **dorks** [*count*] *informal* : a person who behaves awkwardly around other people and usually has unstylish clothes, hair, etc. ▪ Back in high school, all the kids thought he was a *dork*. [=*nerd, loser*] ▪ I look like a complete *dork* in these clothes.
– **dorky** /ˈdoɚki/ *adj* **dork•i•er**; **-est** ▪ He's that tall, *dorky* [=*nerdy*] guy with the glasses.

dorm /ˈdoɚm/ *noun, pl* **dorms** [*count*] *informal* : DORMITORY ▪ We all lived in the same *dorm* during our sophomore year. ▪ my old *dorm* room

dor•mant /ˈdoɚmənt/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not doing anything at this time : not active but able to become active ▪ a *dormant* volcano ▪ The seeds will ***remain/lie dormant*** until the spring. ▪ Her emotions have *lain dormant* for many years.
– **dor•man•cy** /ˈdoɚmənsi/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ The volcano has been in a state of *dormancy* for many years. ▪ a period of *dormancy*

dor•mer /ˈdoɚmɚ/ *noun, pl* **-mers** [*count*]
1 : a window that is in a part of a building that sticks out from a slanted roof — called also *dormer window*; see picture at HOUSE
2 : the part of a building that contains a dormer
– **dor•mered** /ˈdoɚmɚd/ *adj* ▪ *dormered* windows

[1]dor•mi•to•ry /ˈdoɚməˌtori, *Brit* ˈdɔːmətri/ *noun, pl* **-ries** [*count*]
1 *US* : a building on a school campus that has rooms where students can live ▪ a college *dormitory* [=*dorm, residence hall*]
2 : a large room with many beds where people can sleep ▪ Guests at the camp can stay in private cabins or for a smaller fee in the *dormitories*.

[2]dormitory *adj, always used before a noun, Brit* : lived in by people who go to another town or city to work ▪ a ***dormitory town*** [=(*US*) *bedroom community*]

dor•mouse /ˈdoɚˌmaʊs/ *noun, pl* **-mice** /-ˌmaɪs/ [*count*] : a European animal that looks like a small squirrel

dor•sal fin /ˈdoɚsəl-/ *noun, pl* ~ **fins** [*count*] : a flat thin part on the back of some fish (such as sharks)

do•ry /ˈdori/ *noun, pl* **-ries** [*count*] : a boat that has a flat bottom and high sides and that is used especially for fishing

dos•age /ˈdoʊsɪʤ/ *noun, pl* **-ag•es** [*count*] : the amount of a medicine, drug, or vitamin that should be taken at one time or regularly during a period of time — usually singular ▪ Each pill/tablet has the *dosage* necessary to reduce pain and swelling. ▪ Some patients may benefit from a larger *dosage* of this medication. ▪ Do not exceed the recommended *dosage*. [=do not take more than doctors recommend]

[1]dose /ˈdoʊs/ *noun, pl* **dos•es** [*count*]
1 : the amount of a medicine, drug, or vitamin that is taken at one time ▪ I've been taking the same *dose* for five years. ▪ a large *dose* of vitamin C
2 : an amount of a substance ▪ The drug is lethal even in small *doses*. ▪ a large *dose* of sugar ▪ a high *dose* of radiation
3 : an amount of something that a person experiences ▪ Her parents hoped a daily *dose* of hard work would keep her out of trouble. ▪ He needs a good *dose* of reality.
a dose of your own medicine see MEDICINE

[2]dose *verb* **doses**; **dosed**; **dos•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to give a dose of medicine to (someone or something) ▪ Most patients are *dosed* at 50 milligrams per day. — often + *with* ▪ She *dosed* herself daily *with* aspirin.
2 : to give an amount of a substance to (someone or something) — usually + *with* ▪ The victims were *dosed with* poison.
3 *US* : to add something to (something) — usually + *with* ▪ The pasta sauce was heavily *dosed with* garlic. [=there was a lot of garlic in the pasta sauce]

dosh /ˈdɑːʃ/ *noun* [*noncount*] *Brit, informal* : MONEY ▪ earning lots of *dosh*

doss /ˈdɑːs/ *verb* **doss•es**; **dossed**; **doss•ing** [*no obj*] *Brit, informal* : to sleep in a usually uncomfortable place that does not have a bed — usually + *down* ▪ We'll have to *doss down* [=*bed down*] in the car for the night.

doss•er /ˈdɑːsɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *Brit, informal* : a person who does not have a home to sleep in : a homeless person

doss–house /ˈdɑːsˌhaʊs/ *noun, pl* **-hous•es** [*count*] *chiefly Brit, informal* : FLOPHOUSE

dos•sier /ˈdɑːsˌjeɪ/ *noun, pl* **-siers** [*count*] : a group of papers that contain detailed information about someone or something ▪ the patient's medical *dossier* [=(more commonly) *file*] — often + *on* ▪ Investigators began compiling a *dossier on* him after he was suspected of stealing.

[1]dot /ˈdɑːt/ *noun, pl* **dots** [*count*]
1 : a small round mark ▪ Put a *dot* over the *i*. ▪ The *dots* on the map represent cities. ▪ She said, "Go to Learners Dictionary dot com [=the Web site www.learnersdictionary.com] for more information." — see also POLKA DOT
2 : a small spot : a small area that is different in color from the main part ▪ You have a *dot* of ketchup on your shirt. ▪ As we drove away, the house became just a *dot* on the horizon.
3 : a short signal (such as a sound or a flash of light) that represents a letter or a part of a letter in Morse code ▪ The Morse code for the letter *v* is three *dots* and a dash. — compare [2]DASH 7
connect the dots see CONNECT
on the dot *informal* : exactly at a particular time ▪ She arrived at 3 o'clock *on the dot*. = She arrived *on the dot of* 3. [=she arrived exactly at 3 o'clock]
since the year dot see YEAR

[2]dot *verb* **dots**; **dot•ted**; **dot•ting** [+ *obj*]
1 : to mark (something) with a dot ▪ Don't forget to *dot* the *i*.
✧ If you ***dot the/your i's and cross the/your t's***, you make sure that all of the small details in something have been completed. ▪ We need some extra time to *dot the i's and cross the t's* on the report.
2 : to appear at many different places on the surface of (something) ▪ Quaint cottages *dot* the countryside. ▪ The fields were *dotted* with wildflowers.
3 : to put a small amount of something on different parts of (a surface) ▪ *Dot* the cream all over your face.

dot•age /ˈdoʊtɪʤ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the period of old age : the time when a person is old and often less able to remember or do things — often used after *in* or *into* ▪ He has become friendlier *in his dotage*. ▪ The actress continued to work well *into her dotage*.

dot–com /ˈdɑːtˌkɑːm/ *noun, pl* **-coms** [*count*] : a company that sells its products or services only on the Internet ▪ a suc-

cessful *dot-com* — often used before another noun ▪ She owned thousands of dollars in *dot-com* stock. ▪ the *dot-com* boom of the 1990s

dote /ˈdoʊt/ *verb* **dotes; dot•ed; dot•ing**

dote on/upon [*phrasal verb*] ***dote on/upon (someone or something)*** : to give a lot of love or attention to (someone or something) ▪ She *doted on* her new grandchild.

doting *adj, always used before a noun* : showing a lot of love or attention ▪ the child's *doting* grandmother

– dot•ing•ly *adv* ▪ She smiled *dotingly* at the baby.

dot matrix *noun, pl* ~ **matrices** *or* ~ **matrixes** [*count*] : a pattern of dots that form letters, numbers, etc., on a computer screen or on something printed from a computer — often used before another noun ▪ *Dot matrix* printers have been largely replaced with laser printers.

dotted *adj* : covered with dots ▪ the plant's *dotted* green and white leaves [=leaves covered with green and white dots] ▪ He drew a ***dotted line***. [=a line that is made up of a series of dots] ✧ *Dotted line* is often used to refer to the place at the bottom of a document where a person signs and agrees to the terms in the document. ▪ Just sign on the *dotted line* and we'll have a deal.

dot•ty /ˈdɑːti/ *adj* **dot•ti•er; -est** *old-fashioned + informal* : somewhat crazy ▪ my *dotty* old grandparents

[1]dou•ble /ˈdʌbəl/ *adj*

1 : made of two parts that are similar or exactly the same ▪ One of the eggs had a *double* yolk. ▪ The truck crossed the *double* yellow line and entered the other lane. ▪ My name is "Allison," with a *double* "l." ▪ The band is releasing a ***double album*** [=a set of two records, CDs, etc.] later this year. ▪ Go through those ***double doors*** and walk to the end of the hall. ▪ He was convicted of a ***double murder***. [=of killing two people at the same time]

2 : having two very different parts or qualities ▪ He served a *double* [=*dual*] role as both king and servant to his people. ▪ His statement has a *double* meaning. [=it means two different things] ▪ In this film, he does ***double duty*** [=performs two roles] as both actor and director. ✧ If you are ***leading/living a double life***, you have something secret that you do as an important part of your life in addition to the regular parts of your life that other people know about. ▪ She was a newspaper reporter who *led/lived a double life* as a spy.

3 a : of a size that is twice as big as usual : of an amount that is twice as much as usual ▪ I'll have a *double* espresso, please. ▪ two *double* martinis ▪ a *double* dose of medicine ▪ Line the pan with a *double* thickness [=two layers] of foil. ▪ a *double* order of fries **b** : coming from two different places or sources ▪ families with a *double* income [=two incomes]

4 : two times as great or as many as the number, amount, size, etc., of something else ▪ The college had *double* [=*twice*] the number of expected applicants. ▪ Our new car was *double* the price of our last one. ▪ The CEO's salary is nearly *double* that of the president.

5 : made for two people to use ▪ We'll need a *double* room. ▪ a room with a ***double bed***

6 *of a flower* : having more than the usual number of petals ▪ *double* flowers/blooms

[2]double *verb* **dou•bles; dou•bled; dou•bling**

1 a [+ *obj*] : to cause (something) to become two times as great or as many ▪ They *doubled* their winnings. **b** [*no obj*] : to become two times as great or as many ▪ The price of the house had *doubled*. = The house had *doubled* in price.

2 [*no obj*] : to have a second job or use — + *as* ▪ Our couch often *doubles as* a bed. [=is often used as a bed] ▪ Their living room *doubles as* a home office.

3 a [+ *obj*] : to bend or fold (something, such as a piece of paper) usually in the middle — usually + *over* or *up* ▪ I *doubled over* the paper and put it in my notebook. **b** : to bend forward at the waist — usually + *over* or *up* [*no obj*] We all *doubled over* laughing. ▪ He *doubled up* in pain. [+ *obj*] The pain *doubled* him *over*. = He was *doubled over* with pain.

4 [*no obj*] *baseball* : to hit a double : to hit the ball so that you can reach second base ▪ He *doubled* to left field.

double back [*phrasal verb*] : to turn around and return on the same path ▪ I'm going to *double back* to see if I dropped the ring on the way here.

double up [*phrasal verb*] : to share a place to live or sleep that is made for one person or one family ▪ Some families have to *double up* [=live with another family] in crowded apartments. ▪ There was only one bed, so we had to *double up*. — see also [2]DOUBLE 3b (above)

double up on [*phrasal verb*] ***double up on (something)*** : to use or do two times as many of (something) ▪ I'm going to have to *double up on* [=take twice as many] classes this semester if I want to graduate this year.

[3]double *noun, pl* **doubles**

1 [*singular*] : something that is two times the usual size, strength, or amount ▪ I'll have one more glass of vodka. Make it a *double*, please.

2 [*count*] **a** : someone who looks very much like another person ▪ People often tell me that I'm his *double*. **b** : a person who looks like an actor and takes the actor's place in some scenes in a movie or TV show ▪ The actress's *double* did all of the dangerous scenes. ▪ Can you tell if it's the actor or his *double* in that shot? — see also BODY DOUBLE, STUNT DOUBLE

3 [*count*] *baseball* : a hit in baseball that allows a batter to reach second base ▪ He hit a *double* in the eighth inning. — compare HOME RUN, SINGLE, TRIPLE

4 *doubles* [*plural*] : a game of tennis or a similar sport that is played between two pairs of players ▪ We play *doubles* with another couple on the weekends. ▪ He's my *doubles* partner.

5 [*count*] : a room in a hotel, inn, etc., for two people ▪ We'll need a *double* for the night. — compare SINGLE

double or nothing (*US*) *or Brit* ***double or quits*** : a gambling bet in which you could win two times as much money as you have already won or you could lose all of the money ▪ I won $20 on the first game but lost it on the second game going *double or nothing*.

on the double (*US*) *or Brit* ***at the double*** *informal* : very quickly : as soon as possible ▪ I need you back here *on the double*. [=*immediately*]

[4]double *adv*

1 : two times as many or as much ▪ The last question on the exam counts *double*. [=is worth twice as many points] ▪ I was charged/billed *double*. [=twice the usual amount]

2 : two times — usually used in combination ▪ I was ***double-charged/billed***. [=I was charged/billed twice for the same product or service]

bend double : to fold in the middle. ▪ I held on tight as my fishing rod *bent double*. ▪ He *bent double* [=*doubled over*] in pain. ✧ *Bend double* is used more frequently in British English than in U.S. English.

see double : to see two things when only one thing is present ▪ As her eyesight got worse, she began *seeing double*.

that goes double for *informal* — used to say that something you have just said about one person or thing relates even more strongly to another ▪ You're in trouble, Steven. And *that goes double for* you, John. [=you, John, are in even more trouble than Steven]

double agent *noun, pl* ~ **agents** [*count*] : a spy who pretends to spy for one government while actually spying for another ▪ He was secretly working as a *double agent* for the Americans during the war.

dou•ble–bar•reled (*US*) *or Brit* **dou•ble–bar•relled** /ˌdʌbəlˈberəld/ *adj*

1 *of a gun* : having two tubes (called barrels) that bullets or pellets are shot through ▪ a *double-barreled* shotgun

2 *US* : having two parts or purposes ▪ She made a *double-barreled* announcement that she was both leaving the company and getting married. ▪ a *double-barreled* question

double bass *noun, pl* ~ **basses** [*count*] : a very large musical instrument that is shaped like a violin — called also *contrabass*; see picture at STRINGED INSTRUMENT

double bill *noun, pl* ~ **bills** [*count*] : two movies, plays, concerts, etc., that are seen one after the other — compare DOUBLE FEATURE

double bind *noun, pl* ~ **binds** [*count*] : a very difficult situation that has no good solution — usually singular ▪ He finds himself caught in a *double bind*: By doing his job, he could end up hurting his family.

dou•ble–blind /ˌdʌbəlˈblaɪnd/ *adj, technical* — used to describe an experiment that is done so that neither the people who are doing the experiment nor the people who are the subjects of the experiments know which of the groups being studied is the control group and which is the test group ▪ a *double-blind* drug trial

double bogey *noun, pl* ~ **-geys** [*count*] *golf* : a score that is two more than the official standard score for a particular hole : a score of two strokes over par on a hole ▪ He made/scored a *double bogey* on the fourth hole.

– double bogey *verb* ~ **-geys; ~ -geyed; ~ -geying** [+ *obj*] ▪ He *double bogeyed* the fourth hole.

double boiler *noun, pl* ~ **-ers** [*count*] : a pair of deep cooking pans that fit together so that the contents of the top pan can be cooked or heated by boiling water in the bottom pan ▪ Melt the chocolate in a *double boiler*. — see picture at KITCHEN

double bond *noun, pl* ~ **bonds** [*count*] *technical* : a chemical bond in which two atoms in a molecule share two pairs of electrons — compare SINGLE BOND, TRIPLE BOND

double-book *verb* **-books**; **-booked**; **-book•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to make plans for (someone or something) to be in two different places at the same time ▪ My husband and I are *double-booked* for/on Friday night. [=we are scheduled to go to two different places at the same time on Friday night]
2 : to promise a room, seat, table, etc., to two different people or groups at the same time ▪ The airline *double-booked* my seat. = The airline *double-booked* me. — compare OVERBOOK

dou•ble-breast•ed /ˌdʌbəlˈbrɛstəd/ *adj, of a coat or jacket* : having two rows of buttons ▪ He is wearing a tan *double-breasted* jacket. — compare SINGLE-BREASTED

dou•ble-check /ˌdʌbəlˈʧɛk/ *verb* **-checks**; **-checked**; **-check•ing** : to check (something) again in order to be certain [+ *obj*] Be sure to *double-check* your answers before handing in your test. [*no obj*] I thought I mailed the letter already, but let me *double-check*.
– **double check** *noun, pl* ~ **checks** [*count*] ▪ Did you do a *double check* of the list?

double chin *noun, pl* ~ **chins** [*count*] : a fold of fat that some people have under their chin and that looks like a second chin

double-click *verb* **-clicks**; **-clicked**; **-click•ing** : to choose something on a computer screen by quickly pressing a button on a computer mouse or other device two times [+ *obj*] *Double-click* the icon to start the program. [*no obj*] — often + *on* ▪ *Double-click on* the icon.
– **double click** *noun, pl* ~ **clicks** [*count*] ▪ A *double click* with the mouse will start the program.

double cream *noun* [*noncount*] *Brit* : HEAVY CREAM

dou•ble-cross /ˌdʌbəlˈkrɑːs/ *verb* **-cross•es**; **-crossed**; **-cross•ing** [+ *obj*] : to cheat or deceive (someone) especially by doing something that is different from what you said you would do ▪ I thought I could trust her, but she *double-crossed* me.
– **double cross** *noun, pl* ~ **crosses** [*count*] ▪ He accused his manager of a dirty *double cross*. ▪ lies and *double crosses*
– **dou•ble-cross•er** *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] ▪ They're a couple of dirty *double-crossers*.

double date *noun, pl* ~ **dates** [*count*] : an activity (such as going to the movies or going out to eat) that two couples do together ▪ Would you two ladies like to go on a *double date* with me and my friend?
– **double-date** *verb* **-dates**; **-dated**; **-dat•ing** [*no obj*] ▪ My boyfriend and I often *double-date* with a couple that we met in college.

dou•ble-deal•ing /ˌdʌbəlˈdiːlɪŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the practice of pretending to do or think one thing while really doing or thinking something different : dishonest or deceptive behavior ▪ His *double-dealing* [=*duplicity, deceitfulness*] has caused many of his former friends to distrust him.
– **dou•ble-deal•er** /ˌdʌbəlˈdiːlɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]
– **double-dealing** *adj* ▪ He could no longer trust his *double-dealing* friend.

dou•ble-deck•er /ˌdʌbəlˈdɛkɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : something that has two levels or layers ▪ The bus we rode on was a *double-decker*. — usually used before another noun ▪ We took a tour of London on a *double-decker* bus. ▪ *double-decker* trains ▪ a *double-decker* sandwich — compare SINGLE-DECKER, TRIPLE-DECKER

double digits *noun* [*plural*] *chiefly US* : a number or percentage that is 10 or greater ▪ They won the game by *double digits*. [=by 10 or more] ▪ The state's unemployment rate remains in the *double digits*. — called also *double figures*
– **dou•ble-dig•it** /ˌdʌbəlˈdɪʤɪt/ *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ the state's *double-digit* unemployment rate ▪ *double-digit* price increases

double dribble *noun, pl* ~ **dribbles** [*count*] *basketball* : an illegal action that happens when a player dribbles the ball with two hands at the same time or starts to dribble again after stopping

double Dutch *noun* [*noncount*]
1 *US* : the activity of jumping over two jump ropes that two people are swinging in circles in opposite directions ▪ The girls were playing *double Dutch* on the sidewalk.
2 *chiefly Brit, informal* : language that cannot be understood ▪ It was all *double Dutch* [=*nonsense, gibberish*] to me.

dou•ble-edged /ˌdʌbəlˈɛʤd/ *adj*
1 : having two sharp edges ▪ a *double-edged* knife
2 : having two different and opposite parts ▪ a *double-edged* problem/strategy
3 : able to be understood in two different ways ▪ *double-edged* remarks ▪ a *double-edged* description

double-edged sword *noun, pl* ~ **swords** [*count*]
1 : a sword that has two sharp edges
2 : something that has both good and bad parts or results ▪ Freedom of expression can be a *double-edged sword*.

dou•ble en•ten•dre /ˈdʌbəlɑnˈtɑːndrə/ *noun, pl* ~ **-dres** [*count*] : a word or expression that can be understood in two different ways with one way usually referring to sex ▪ The song's title is a *double entendre*.

double fault *noun, pl* ~ **faults** [*count*] *tennis* : two bad serves that result in the loss of a point

double feature *noun, pl* ~ **-tures** [*count*] *US* : two movies that are shown one after the other — compare DOUBLE BILL

double figures *noun* [*plural*] : DOUBLE DIGITS

double glazing *noun* [*noncount*] *technical* : two layers of glass that are set in a window to keep heat inside and reduce noise
– **double-glazed** *adj* ▪ *double-glazed* windows

dou•ble•head•er /ˌdʌbəlˈhɛdɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *chiefly US* : two games (especially baseball games) that are played one after the other on the same day ▪ The two teams will meet in a *doubleheader* this Saturday.

double helix *noun, pl* ~ **helices** *also* ~ **helixes** [*count*] *technical* : the shape formed by two parallel lines that twist around each other ✧ The strands of DNA are arranged in a double helix.

double-hung window *noun, pl* ~ **-dows** [*count*] *US* : a window that can be opened either by sliding the bottom half up or by sliding the top half down — called also (*Brit*) *sash window*; see picture at WINDOW

double jeopardy *noun* [*noncount*] *US, law* : the act of causing a person to be put on trial two times for the same crime ▪ constitutional protections against *double jeopardy*

dou•ble-joint•ed /ˌdʌbəlˈʤɔɪntəd/ *adj* : having a joint that allows body parts to move in ways that are not typical ▪ His right shoulder is *double-jointed*. ▪ *double-jointed* fingers

double knit *noun, pl* ~ **knits**
1 [*noncount*] : a type of cloth that is made with two sets of needles and has two connected layers
2 [*count*] *US* : a piece of clothing that is made of double knit ▪ 1960s-style *double knits*
– **dou•ble-knit** *adj* ▪ a pair of polyester *double-knit* pants

double negative *noun, pl* ~ **-tives** [*count*] *grammar* : a clause that has two negative words (such as "nothing" and "don't") when only one is necessary ✧ *Double negatives* are usually considered incorrect in English. ▪ "I didn't do nothing" is a *double negative*. If you want to be correct, you should say "I didn't do anything."

dou•ble-park /ˌdʌbəlˈpɑɚk/ *verb* **-parks**; **-parked**; **-park•ing** : to park (a car or other vehicle) beside a row of vehicles that are already parked on the side of the street [+ *obj*] — usually used as *(be) double-parked* ▪ My truck *is double-parked* outside. [*no obj*] If you *double-park*, you will get a ticket.

double play *noun, pl* ~ **plays** [*count*] *baseball* : a play in which the team in the field causes two runners to be put out ▪ The batter hit into a *double play*. ▪ They ***turned a double play*** to end the inning. — compare TRIPLE PLAY

dou•ble-quick /ˈdʌbəlˌkwɪk/ *adj, always used before a noun, chiefly Brit, informal* : extra fast or quick ▪ They've been working in *double-quick* time [=they've been working very quickly] to finish the project.
– **double-quick** *adv* ▪ We have to get this done *double-quick*.

double-sided *adj* : having two sides that can be used ▪ Fill out this *double-sided* form. ▪ *double-sided* adhesive tape

dou•ble-space /ˌdʌbəlˈspeɪs/ *verb* **-spac•es**; **-spaced**; **-spac•ing** : to write or type (a paper, letter, etc.) so that each line of words is followed by a line without words [+ *obj*] — often used as *(be) double-spaced* ▪ All essays must *be* typed and *double-spaced*. [*no obj*] Be sure to *double-space*. It makes reading much easier.

dou•ble•speak /ˈdʌbəlˌspiːk/ *noun* [*noncount*] *disapproving*

: language that can be understood in more than one way and that is used to trick or deceive people ▪ political *doublespeak*

double standard *noun, pl* ~ **-dards** [*count*] : a situation in which two people, groups, etc., are treated very differently from each other in a way that is unfair to one of them ▪ She argued that society applies a *double standard* in dealing with women who commit adultery.

double take *noun, pl* ~ **takes** [*count*] : an act of quickly looking at something that is surprising or unusual a second time after looking at it a moment earlier ▪ His parents ***did a double take*** when he came home with a tattoo.

dou·ble–talk /'dʌbəlˌtɑ:k/ *noun* [*noncount*] *disapproving* : language that uses many words but has very little meaning ▪ We asked for a clear and honest answer, but all we got was a bunch of meaningless *double-talk*.

double–team /'dʌbəlˌti:m/ *verb* **-teams**; **-teamed**; **-team·ing** [+ *obj*] *US, sports* : to block or guard (an opponent) with two players at one time ▪ He was *double-teamed* [=two players guarded him] in the first half of the game.

double time *noun* [*noncount*] : payment of a worker at two times the usual rate ▪ She was paid *double time* [=she was paid twice as much as usual] for working on Thanksgiving. — compare TIME AND A HALF

double vision *noun* [*noncount*] : a problem with the eyes that causes a person to see two objects when only one is present ▪ He wore special glasses to correct his *double vision*.

double wham·my /-'wæmi/ *noun, pl* ~ **-mies** [*count*] *informal* : a situation that is bad in two different ways : a situation in which two bad conditions exist at the same time or two bad things happen one after the other ▪ With the cold weather and the high cost of heating fuel, homeowners were hit with a *double whammy* this winter.

dou·ble–wide /ˌdʌbəl'waɪd/ *noun, pl* **-wides** [*count*] *US* : a mobile home that is made of two units that have been connected together side by side — called also *double-wide trailer*

dou·bly /'dʌbli/ *adv, always used before an adjective*

1 : much more than usual or previously : to a much higher degree than usual ▪ We did the test again because we wanted to be *doubly* [=*extra, especially, very*] sure the results were accurate. ▪ I had to work *doubly* [=*twice as*] hard after my partner left the competition.

2 : in two ways : for two reasons ▪ Her grades and musical talent make her parents *doubly* proud of her.

[1]doubt /'daʊt/ *verb* **doubts**; **doubt·ed**; **doubt·ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to be uncertain about (something) : to believe that (something) may not be true or is unlikely ▪ She began to *doubt* [=*question*] everything he said. ▪ I have always *doubted* the existence of life on other planets. ▪ No one *doubts* that the mission will be a success. ▪ I seriously *doubt* my parents will let me go. ▪ "Do you think you can come tonight?" "I *doubt* it."

2 : to have no confidence in (someone or something) ▪ I began to *doubt* [=*question*] my own judgment. ▪ She *doubted* his ability to succeed. ▪ He said he could do it, but I couldn't help *doubting* him.

– **doubt·er** *noun, pl* **-ters** [*count*] ▪ He did everything he could to reassure the *doubters*.

[2]doubt *noun, pl* **doubts** : a feeling of being uncertain or unsure about something [*noncount*] I still have moments of *doubt*. ▪ There can be little *doubt* that smoking is bad for your health. ▪ There is no *doubt* [=*question*] in my mind that he is best candidate. ▪ These mistakes ***cast/throw doubt on*** her ability. = They ***cast/throw into doubt*** her ability. [=they make people question or lose confidence in her ability] ▪ (*US*) The results of the study have been ***called into doubt***. [=people are expressing doubts about the results] — often + *about* ▪ She was filled with *doubt* [=*uncertainty*] *about* the future. ▪ The evidence against her leaves little room for *doubt about* her guilt. [=the evidence shows that she is guilty] [*count*] I had a nagging *doubt* in the back of my mind. — often + *about* ▪ He still has *doubts about* his chances of success. ▪ I've always had my *doubts about* him. ▪ Two separate studies have ***raised doubts about*** the car's safety.

beyond doubt ✧ If something is *beyond doubt*, it is definitely true. ▪ The test results proved *beyond* (all/any) *doubt* that he was not the child's father. ▪ If she is to be found guilty, the charges against her must be proved ***beyond a reasonable doubt***. ▪ I knew, ***beyond a shadow of a doubt***, that everything was going to be okay.

in doubt : in a state of being uncertain or unsure ▪ The outcome was *in doubt* [=not known with certainty] until the final seconds of the game. ▪ The future of the company remains very much *in doubt*. ▪ When/if *in doubt*, please contact us with your questions.

no doubt : without doubt or with very little doubt — used when you are making a statement that you think is certainly or almost certainly true ▪ She was *no doubt* [=*certainly, doubtless, unquestionably*] the smartest person in her class. ▪ *No doubt* many readers will find the book too long. ▪ By now, you have *no doubt* heard the news. ▪ "He'll probably blame someone else." "*No doubt*." [=I agree that he'll blame someone else]

no doubt about it — used to stress that something is true ▪ *No doubt about it*, the fans are disappointed in the team.

the benefit of the doubt see [1]BENEFIT

without (a) doubt — used to stress that something is true ▪ They are, *without doubt*, the nicest people I've ever met.

doubt·ful /'daʊtfəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : uncertain or unsure about something ▪ I tried to reassure them, but they remained *doubtful*. ▪ She gave him a *doubtful* look. [=a look that shows doubt] — often + *about* or *of* ▪ They were *doubtful about* the benefits of the new system. = They were *doubtful of* its benefits.

2 : not likely to be true : not probable ▪ He made the *doubtful* [=*dubious*] claim that he had never been sick a day in his life. ▪ The truth of the statements was *doubtful*. — often + *that, if*, or *whether* ▪ It's highly *doubtful* [=*unlikely, improbable*] *that* anyone will notice. ▪ It is *doubtful if* she really meant what she said. ▪ The situation is bad and it's *doubtful whether* it will get better soon.

3 : likely to be bad : not worthy of trust ▪ The water available in the village is of *doubtful* [=*questionable*] quality. ▪ Their decisions were based on data of *doubtful* accuracy.

4 : not certain : unknown or undecided ▪ The outcome of the election remains *doubtful*. ▪ The company is facing a *doubtful* future.

– **doubt·ful·ly** *adv* ▪ She looked at him *doubtfully*.

doubting Thom·as /-'tɑ:məs/ *noun, pl* ~ **-as·es** [*count*] *somewhat old-fashioned* : someone who rarely trusts or believes things before having proof : a doubtful or skeptical person ▪ She kept trying, hoping to prove all those *doubting Thomases* wrong.

doubt·less /'daʊtləs/ *adv* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : without doubt or with very little doubt — used when you are making a statement that you think is certainly or almost certainly true ▪ She was *doubtless* [=*unquestionably, no doubt*] the smartest person in her class. ▪ There will *doubtless* be many more issues to deal with before this is over. ▪ The car accident will *doubtless* result in a lawsuit.

douche /'du:ʃ/ *noun, pl* **douch·es** [*count*] : a liquid that a woman squirts into her vagina to wash it; *also* : an object used to squirt such a liquid into the vagina

– **douche** *verb* **douches**; **douched**; **douch·ing** [*no obj*] ▪ She advises her patients not to *douche* because doing so can lead to infections.

dough /'doʊ/ *noun, pl* **doughs**

1 [*count, noncount*] : a mixture of flour, water, and other ingredients that is baked to make bread, cookies, etc.

2 [*noncount*] *informal* : MONEY ▪ I don't have much *dough*.

dough·nut *or chiefly US* **do·nut** /'doʊˌnʌt/ *noun, pl* **-nuts** [*count*]

1 : a piece of sweet fried dough that is often shaped like a ring ▪ powdered *doughnuts* ▪ a jelly *donut*

2 : something that has a round shape like a doughnut ▪ drawing *doughnuts* in the sand ▪ a foam *doughnut*

dough·ty /'daʊti/ *adj, always used before a noun* **dough·ti·er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~] *old-fashioned* : brave, strong, and determined ▪ a *doughty* fighter

doughy /'dowi/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : resembling dough: such as **a** : not completely baked ▪ High humidity can make your loaves turn out *doughy*. **b** : not hard or firm ▪ a *doughy* consistency **c** : pale in color and unhealthy ▪ her *doughy* [=*pasty*] white skin

Doug·las fir /ˌdʌgləs-/ *noun, pl* ~ **firs** [*count*] : a very tall evergreen tree that grows in the western U.S.

dou·la /'du:lə/ *noun, pl* **-las** [*count*] *medical* : a woman whose job is to give advice and comfort to a woman who is giving birth

dour /'duɚ, 'dawɚ/ *adj* **dour·er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* : serious and unfriendly ▪ a *dour* politician ▪ a *dour* manner ▪ She had a *dour* expression on her face. : silent and gloomy ▪ the *dour* mood of the crowd

– **dour•ly** *adv* [*more* ~; *most* ~] – **dour•ness** *noun* [*non-count*]

douse /ˈdaʊs/ *verb* **dous•es**; **doused**; **dous•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 a : to cause (a fire) to stop burning by pouring or spraying water on it : to extinguish (a fire) with water ▪ It took firefighters 15 minutes to *douse* the blaze. ▪ She managed to *douse* the flames with water. **b :** to turn off (a light) ▪ Don't forget to *douse* the lights before coming to bed.
2 : to cover (someone or something) with a liquid — usually + *in* or *with* ▪ The books were *doused in* gasoline and set on fire. ▪ She *doused* herself *with* perfume.

[1]dove /ˈdʌv/ *noun, pl* **doves** [*count*]
1 : a small wild bird that is related to pigeons ✧ Doves are often used as a symbol of peace.
2 : a person who does not want war and does want peace ▪ The President sided with the *doves* and worked to avoid war. — compare HAWK
– **dov•ish** /ˈdʌvɪʃ/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ a *dovish* politician

[2]dove *past tense and past participle of* [1]DIVE

dove•cote /ˈdʌvˌkoʊt/ *also* **dove•cot** /ˈdʌvˌkɑːt/ *noun, pl* **-cotes** *also* **-cots** [*count*] : a small house or box for pigeons to live in

[1]dove•tail /ˈdʌvˌteɪl/ *noun, pl* **-tails** [*count*] : a type of joint that is used to connect two pieces of wood together — called also *dovetail joint*

[2]dovetail *verb* **-tails**; **-tailed**; **-tail•ing**
1 [+ *obj*] : to join (two pieces of wood) with dovetail joints ▪ The carpenter *dovetailed* (together) the corners (of the boards) for extra strength.
2 [*no obj*] *formal* : to fit together in a pleasing or satisfying way ▪ She found that the positions of the party and her own opinions *dovetailed* [=*agreed, corresponded*] nicely. — often + *with* ▪ His research *dovetails with* other similar studies.

Dow /ˈdaʊ/ *noun*
the Dow *US* : DOW JONES INDUSTRIAL AVERAGE

dow•a•ger /ˈdaʊɪʤɚ/ *noun, pl* **-gers** [*count*]
1 : a woman who has inherited property or a title from her dead husband — often used before another noun ▪ the *dowager* Duchess
2 : an old woman who is very formal or serious ▪ The estate is owned by a wealthy *dowager*.

dowdy /ˈdaʊdi/ *adj* **dowd•i•er**; **-est** [*or more* ~; *most* ~] : having a dull or uninteresting appearance : not attractive or stylish ▪ She played a *dowdy* old woman in the film. ▪ a *dowdy* [=*frumpy, drab*] gray dress

dow•el /ˈdaʊəl/ *noun, pl* **-els** [*count*] : a pin or peg that is used for joining together two pieces of wood, metal, plastic, etc. ▪ wooden/steel *dowels*

Dow Jones Industrial Average /ˌdaʊˌʤoʊnz-/ *noun*
the Dow Jones Industrial Average : the daily average of the stock prices of a group of large American companies

[1]down /ˈdaʊn/ *adv*
1 a : from a higher to a lower place or position ▪ The land slopes *down* to the sea. ▪ Please pull *down* the window shade. = Please pull the window shade *down*. ▪ I'll come *down* [=*downstairs*] in a minute. ▪ She called *down* to her friends in the street below. ▪ They set/put the cake *down* on the table. ▪ Lay *down* your book for a minute. ▪ We watched the sun go *down*. **b :** in a low position or place ▪ Keep your head *down*. ▪ We keep our wine collection *down* in the basement. ▪ What's going on *down* there?
2 : to or toward the ground or floor ▪ He fell *down* and hurt his knee. ▪ Climb *down* out of that tree! ▪ He knocked him *down* with one punch. ▪ Don't look *down*! ▪ Brightly colored flags hang *down* from the ceiling.
3 : to a lying or sitting position ▪ Please, sit *down*. ▪ Lie *down* and go to sleep.
4 a : to or toward the south ▪ They went *down* to Florida for two weeks. ▪ We drove *down* from New York. ▪ The weather's much warmer ***down south***. **b** *informal* : to or toward a place that is thought of as below or away from another place ▪ She drove *down* to our house. ▪ Come on *down* and see us sometime. **c :** to or toward a place that is away from the speaker ▪ He is heading *down* to the store. ▪ Would you mind moving (further) *down* so that we can sit here, too?
5 : on a piece of paper ▪ Write *down* everything he says. ▪ Take *down* this number. ▪ Did you get that *down*?
6 : at a lower or lesser important position in a list or series ▪ Supporting public education seems to be ***far down*** [=*low*] on the government's agenda. ▪ Cleaning my house ranks pretty *far down* on my list. [=there are many other things I'd rather do] — opposite UP
7 : to a lower or lesser degree, level, or rate ▪ Slow *down*. ▪ Could you turn the volume *down*, please? ▪ We should give them some time to cool *down*. ▪ We should wait for the winds to calm *down* before we set sail. ▪ The company's stock went *down* last week. ▪ The team was 10 points *down* [=it had 10 fewer points than the other team] in the third quarter. ▪ The price of gasoline is starting to go *down* again. — opposite UP
8 : to a smaller or weaker state ▪ We have scaled *down* our plans for the new building. ▪ Some people want to use the budget surplus to pay *down* the national debt. [=to make payments that will reduce the a national debt] ▪ They have cut/whittled *down* the number of candidates. — often + *to* ▪ He finally got his report *down to* three pages.
9 : to a state of failure or defeat ▪ The school board voted the budget *down* 55 to 15. [=it voted not to pass the budget]
10 : in a way that causes someone or something to be less able to move ▪ Remember to tie *down* the load. ▪ They had to strap the patient *down* to his bed.
11 : in a thorough or complete way ▪ The car needs to be washed *down*. ▪ Hose the dog *down* outside.
12 : to the place where a person or thing is or came from ▪ They use dogs to hunt *down* escaped prisoners. ▪ He chased the ball *down* and threw it to third base. ▪ Every attempt to pin *down* the cause of the disease has proved unsuccessful. ▪ I haven't been able to track *down* that quotation.
13 : from a past time ▪ This vase has been handed *down* in our family for several generations. ▪ Most of these stories were passed *down* by word of mouth.
14 : as a first payment : as a down payment ▪ We put 10 percent *down* [=we made a 10 percent down payment] on the house. ▪ Buy a car now with no money *down*. [=without making a down payment]
15 : in the stomach ▪ The baby is having trouble keeping food *down*.
16 *Brit* : away from a school or university ▪ He was sent *down* for misconduct and never earned his degree.
down in the mouth see [1]MOUTH
down to **1 :** in a way that includes even (the smallest or least important part) ▪ Our work must be accurate *down to* the last detail. ▪ They knew everything about him *down to* the cologne he wore. **2 :** to the last person or thing that can be used ▪ It looks like it's *down to* you and me. [=we are the last two people that are available] ▪ I'm *down to* my last dollar. [=I have only one dollar left]
down with — used to say that you do not like something and want it to stop or fail ▪ *Down with* racism! ▪ *Down with* the government!
keep your head down see [1]HEAD
let your hair down see HAIR
put your foot down see [1]FOOT
up and down see [1]UP
with your pants down see PANTS

[2]down *adj*
1 : in a low place or position ▪ The window shades were *down*. ▪ The candy is *down* on the bottom shelf. **:** on the ground or floor ▪ There was a pile of dirty clothes *down* on the floor.
2 : going downward ▪ She took the *down* escalator.
3 : lower in price or value ▪ These changes should help keep prices *down*. ▪ Stocks are *down* again today.
4 : less than an earlier or normal level ▪ Attendance has been *down* lately. ▪ New construction is *down* sharply this month.
5 : having a lower level of activity ▪ Our business is having a *down* year. ▪ a *down* market/economy
6 : having fewer points than an opponent ▪ His team was *down* by 10 points [=trailed by 10 points] in the third quarter. ▪ We're *down* two runs.
7 : not operating properly : not able to function ▪ We can't get any work done while the network/system is *down*.
8 [*more* ~; *most* ~] : sad or unhappy ▪ You look pretty *down*. What's the matter? ▪ She was feeling *down*.
9 : finished or completed ▪ I've got eight *down* and only two more to go. [=I've finished eight and have two more to do]
10 : learned in a complete way ▪ Do you all have your lines *down*? [=*memorized*] ▪ We have our routine ***down pat***. [=we have mastered our routine; we can do it easily]
11 : having something written or recorded in an official way ▪ You are *down* for two tickets. [=you are signed up to get two tickets]
12 *US slang* — used to say that you understand or approve of something; usually + *with* ▪ I told them I wasn't *down with* lying to people. [=I don't think that lying to people is right] ▪ Yeah, I'm *down with* that.

13 *baseball* — used to say how many outs have been made in the inning by the team that is batting ▪ There are now two (men) *down* in the top of the third inning.

14 *American football* — used to say that the ball or the player who has the ball is on the ground and the play has ended ▪ The runner was *down* on the fifty-yard line. ▪ The ball was *down*.

down for the count see ²COUNT

down on *informal* : having a bad opinion of someone or something ▪ My coach has been *down on* me lately.

down on your luck see ¹LUCK

down with : affected by (an illness) ▪ She has been *down with* the flu for a week.

when the chips are down see ¹CHIP

³down *prep*

1 : from a higher to a lower part of (something) ▪ Sweat dripped *down* her neck. ▪ The children ran *down* the hill. ▪ She fell *down* the stairs. ▪ He climbed *down* the ladder. ▪ He spilled mustard *down* the front of his shirt. ▪ Her hair hung loosely *down* her back.

2 : along the course or path of (something) ▪ Go *down* the road/street and turn left. ▪ We grew up *down* the block from each other. ▪ There's a bridge three miles *down* the river. [=three miles in the same direction that the water is going in the river] ▪ ships sailing *down* the coast [=along the coast usually toward the south] ▪ The bathroom is halfway *down* the hall on the right. ▪ His pitches were right *down* the middle of the plate. ▪ I usually part my hair *down* the center. ▪ He is still pacing ***up and down*** [=back and forth in] the room.

⁴down *noun, pl* **downs**

1 [*count*] : a period or state of failure, trouble, etc. — usually plural ▪ The company has had more *downs* than ups this year. ▪ We have had our ***ups and downs***.

2 *American football* : one of a series of four chances that a team has to move the ball forward 10 yards in order to keep the ball and begin a new series [*noncount*] He caught the ball on second/third *down*. [*count*] a series of *downs* — see also FIRST DOWN

– compare ⁵DOWN, DOWNS

⁵down *noun* [*noncount*]

1 : small and very soft feathers ▪ goose *down* ▪ a pillow filled with *down* — often used before another noun ▪ a *down* pillow/comforter/jacket

2 : small soft hairs ▪ The young man had just a light trace of *down* on his cheeks. ▪ the *down* of a peach

– compare ⁴DOWN, DOWNS

⁶down *verb* **downs**; **downed**; **down•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to cause (something) to fall to the ground ▪ He *downed* [=*shot down*] four enemy planes. ▪ The storm *downed* power lines throughout the city. ▪ a *downed* bird/plane ▪ a large number of *downed* power lines

2 *informal* : to eat or drink (something) especially quickly ▪ She quickly *downed* [=*took*, *swallowed*] the pills I gave her. ▪ They were *downing* beers and watching the game on TV.

3 *American football* : to cause (a football) to be out of play ▪ The quarterback *downed* the ball to stop the clock.

4 *informal* : DEFEAT ▪ Smith *downed* Jones in the first round of the tournament. ▪ The Cardinals *downed* the Braves by a score of 5–2.

down–and–dirty *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *chiefly US, informal*

1 : involving methods that are regarded as harsh, unfair, etc. ▪ *down-and-dirty* business practices ▪ *down-and-dirty* competition

2 : dirty and in poor condition ▪ The story takes place on the *down-and-dirty* [=*seedy*, *decrepit*] streets of the city.

3 : relating to harsh and unpleasant subjects in an honest and often shocking way ▪ I told them the *down-and-dirty* truth. ▪ a *down-and-dirty* interview

4 : basic and practical ▪ We have to get down to the *down-and-dirty* [=*nitty-gritty*] details.

get down and dirty : to do or say harsh and unpleasant things ▪ Sometimes you have to *get down and dirty* with your competitors.

down–and–out *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *informal* : very poor and without hope : having no money, job, etc. ▪ No one would help him when he was *down-and-out*. ▪ a movie about a *down-and-out* musician living on the streets

down–at–the–heels (*chiefly US*) *or chiefly Brit* **down–at–heel** *adj* : looking or seeming cheap or poor and dirty or worn ▪ We got a room at a *down-at-the-heels* [=*dingy*, *seedy*] motel. ▪ a *down-at-heel* traveler

¹down•beat /ˈdaʊnˌbiːt/ *noun, pl* **-beats** [*count*] *music*

1 : the downward movement that a conductor makes to show which note is played with the greatest stress or force

2 : the first beat of a measure of music

²downbeat *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : sad or depressing : not happy or hopeful ▪ Many will be surprised by the movie's unusually *downbeat* [=*pessimistic*, *gloomy*] ending. — opposite UPBEAT

down•cast /ˈdaʊnˌkæst, *Brit* ˈdaʊnˌkɑːst/ *adj*

1 [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not happy, confident, or hopeful ▪ I've never seen her looking so *downcast*. [=*depressed*, *unhappy*, *sad*] ▪ There were a lot of *downcast* faces in the crowd.

2 *of eyes* : looking downward ▪ *downcast* eyes

down•court /ˈdaʊnˈkoɚt/ *adv* : into or toward the opposite end of a basketball court ▪ He passed the ball *downcourt*. ▪ running *downcourt*

down•draft /ˈdaʊnˌdræft, *Brit* ˈdaʊnˌdrɑːft/ *noun, pl* **-drafts** [*count*] *technical* : a downward flow of air ▪ a strong *downdraft* from the thunderstorm

down•er /ˈdaʊnɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *informal*

1 : a drug that makes the body relax; *especially* : BARBITURATE ▪ I took some *downers* to help me sleep. — compare UPPER

2 : something that is unpleasant or depressing ▪ "His cat just died." "Oh, that's a real *downer*." ▪ Our conversation about death was a bit of a *downer*.

down•fall /ˈdaʊnˌfɑːl/ *noun, pl* **-falls** [*count*]

1 : a sudden loss of power, happiness, success, etc. ▪ She was blamed for the company's *downfall*. [=*decline*, *ruin*] ▪ Their *downfall* was the result of several bad decisions.

2 : something that causes failure ▪ In the end, gambling proved to be his *downfall*. [=*ruin*, *undoing*] ▪ Bad decision-making was their *downfall*.

down•field /ˈdaʊnˈfiːld/ *adv, sports* : into or toward the part of the field toward which a team is headed ▪ He threw/kicked the ball *downfield*.

– **downfield** *adj* ▪ a *downfield* pass

¹down•grade /ˈdaʊnˌgreɪd/ *verb* **-grades**; **-grad•ed**; **-grad•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to give (someone or something) a lower rank or grade ▪ If you confess to the crime, we may be able to *downgrade* [=*reduce*] the charge. ▪ The restaurant was *downgraded* from three to two stars. ▪ a soldier *downgraded* [=*demoted*] in rank for misconduct — opposite UPGRADE

2 : to cause (someone or something) to be thought of as less valuable, important, etc. ▪ She didn't intend to *downgrade* the importance of her colleague's work.

²downgrade *noun, pl* **-grades** [*count*] *chiefly US*

1 : an area or surface that goes downward : a downward slope ▪ a steep *downgrade*

2 : an occurrence in which something becomes worse, less valuable, etc. ▪ a *downgrade* in the company's stock prices ▪ slight *downgrades* in quality

down•heart•ed /ˈdaʊnˈhɑɚtəd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : not happy, confident, or hopeful ▪ Everyone was *downhearted* [=*sad*, *depressed*] about the decision to close the factory.

¹down•hill /ˌdaʊnˈhɪl/ *adv*

1 : toward the bottom of a hill or mountain ▪ It is easier to ride a bike *downhill* than uphill.

2 : toward a worse state ▪ Her career/health is heading *downhill*. ▪ After his divorce, he ***went downhill*** fast. ▪ The service has *gone downhill* under the new owner.

²down•hill /ˈdaʊnˌhɪl/ *adj*

1 : going or sloping down toward the bottom of a hill or mountain ▪ The second half of the hike is mostly *downhill*. ▪ a *downhill* path/slope

2 *not used before a noun* **a** : not difficult : easy to do, deal with, etc. ▪ The worst part is over. It's all *downhill* from here. **b** : becoming worse or less successful ▪ The first part of the movie was pretty good, but after that it was all *downhill*. ▪ His career has been all *downhill* in recent years.

3 *always used before a noun* : relating to or used in a kind of skiing that is done down a mountain or hill instead of over the countryside ▪ I enjoy *downhill* skiing. ▪ a *downhill* skier/competition ▪ *downhill* skis — compare ¹CROSS-COUNTRY 3

³down•hill /ˈdaʊnˌhɪl/ *noun, pl* **-hills** [*count*] : a downhill skiing race — usually singular ▪ He finished first in the *downhill*.

down–home /ˈdaʊnˌhoʊm/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *US* : simple and informal in a way that reminds people of life in a small town or in the country especially in the southern U.S. ▪ She's very famous but there is something quiet and *down-home* about her. ▪ *down-home* cooking

D

Dow·ning Street /ˈdaʊnɪŋ-/ *noun* [*singular*] : the British Prime Minister or the British government • *Downing Street* and the White House are currently discussing the issue. ✧ The term *Downing Street* comes from the address of the official home of the British Prime Minister at Number 10 Downing Street in London.

[1]down·load /ˈdaʊnˌloʊd/ *verb* **-loads**; **-load·ed**; **-load·ing** *computers* : to move or copy (a file, program, etc.) from a usually larger computer system to another computer or device [+ *obj*] He *downloaded* the files onto his computer. • She *downloads* songs from/off the Internet. [*no obj*] The software *downloads* quickly. • The new program makes *downloading* faster. — compare UPLOAD
– **down·load·able** /ˈdaʊnˌloʊdəbəl/ *adj* • *downloadable* files

[2]download *noun, pl* **-loads** *computers*
1 : an act of moving or copying a file, program, etc., from a usually larger computer system to another computer or device [*count*] The modem is capable of high-speed *downloads*. • The *download* will take about three minutes. [*noncount*] The program is available for *download* at the company's Web site.
2 [*count*] : a file, program, etc., that is downloaded • The *downloads* are all in this folder.

down–mar·ket /ˈdaʊnˌmɑɚkət/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *chiefly Brit* : made for or appealing to people who do not have much money • a *down-market* [=(*US*) *downscale*] store/hotel; *also* : of low quality • *down-market* tabloids/products
– **down–market** *adv* • The store is *going/moving down-market*. [=starting to sell products for people with less money]

down payment *noun, pl* ~ **-ments** [*count*] : a first payment that you make when you buy something with an agreement to pay the rest later • She made a 10 percent *down payment* on the car. • We put/made a *down payment* on the house.

downpipe *noun, pl* **-pipes** [*count*] *Brit* : DOWNSPOUT

down·play /ˈdaʊnˌpleɪ/ *verb* **-plays**; **-played**; **-play·ing** [+ *obj*] : to make (something) seem smaller or less important • She *downplayed* [=*played down*] her role in the research. • Athletes often *downplay* their injuries.

down·pour /ˈdaʊnˌpoɚ/ *noun, pl* **-pours** [*count*] : a sudden heavy rain — usually singular • We got caught in a torrential *downpour*.

down·right /ˈdaʊnˌraɪt/ *adv* : to the fullest degree : completely or totally • The movie was *downright* stupid/bad/scary. • It's very difficult, if not *downright* impossible. • They were *downright* overjoyed.
– **downright** *adj, always used before a noun* • a *downright* [=*absolute, outright*] lie • I was met with *downright* hostility.

down·riv·er /ˈdaʊnˈrɪvɚ/ *adv* : in the direction in which a river flows : DOWNSTREAM • The raft drifted *downriver*.

downs /ˈdaʊnz/ *noun* [*plural*] : a high area of land that has low hills and no trees • Sheep graze on the grassy *downs*. • the South *Downs* of Southern England ✧ *Downs* often appears in the names of racetracks that are used for horseracing. • His horse won the Kentucky Derby at Churchill *Downs*.

Down's /ˈdaʊnz/ *noun* [*noncount*] *medical* : DOWN SYNDROME • He has *Down's*. • (*informal*) a *Down's* baby

[1]down·scale /ˈdaʊnˌskeɪl/ *verb* **-scales**; **-scaled**; **-scal·ing** [+ *obj*] *US* : to make (something) smaller • The company has *downscaled* production. [=the company is making fewer products] • The festival will have to be *downscaled* this year.

[2]downscale *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *US* : relating or appealing to people who do not have much money • an apartment in a *downscale* neighborhood • The company aims to reach a more *downscale* market with its new stores; *also* : of low quality • *downscale* [=(*chiefly Brit*) *down-market*] products

down·shift /ˈdaʊnˌʃɪft/ *verb* **-shifts**; **-shift·ed**; **-shift·ing** [*no obj*]
1 : to put the engine of a vehicle into a lower gear • You can *downshift* to slow the car down. — opposite UPSHIFT
2 : to begin to work or happen at a level that is slower, easier, or more relaxed • Several employees will be *downshifting* from full-time to part-time. [=will start working less than the regular number of hours] • Expect the real estate market to *downshift* in the next few months. [=expect that fewer people will be buying and selling houses, buildings, etc.]
– **downshift** *noun, pl* **-shifts** [*count*] • a *downshift* into first gear • *downshifts* in economic growth

down·side /ˈdaʊnˌsaɪd/ *noun, pl* **-sides** [*count*] : a part of something that you do not want or like : a drawback or disadvantage • He could find no *downside* to the car. • ***On the downside*** [=when you consider the disadvantages], the car does not have much trunk space. — often + *of* • The *downside of* the camera is that the batteries have to be replaced often. — opposite UPSIDE

down·size /ˈdaʊnˌsaɪz/ *verb* **-siz·es**; **-sized**; **-siz·ing**
1 : to make (something) smaller [+ *obj*] They have *downsized* the car's engine in the new model. [*no obj*] We *downsized* to a smaller apartment last year. [=we moved to a smaller apartment]
2 : to make a company smaller and more efficient by reducing the number of workers [*no obj*] The company is planning to *downsize* next year. [+ *obj*] The company will be *downsized* next year. • The company has *downsized* [=*reduced*] its staff. • She was *downsized* [=she was dismissed from her job] after 15 years with the company.
– **downsizing** *noun, pl* **-ings** [*count*] He lost his job in a recent *downsizing* at the company. • corporate *downsizings* [*noncount*] problems caused by corporate *downsizing*

down·slide /ˈdaʊnˌslaɪd/ *noun, pl* **-slides** [*count*] *US* : a situation in which something decreases or becomes worse — usually singular • an economic *downslide* [=(more commonly) *downturn*] • Her career has been on a/the *downslide*.

down·slope /ˈdaʊnˌsloʊp/ *adv, US* : toward the bottom of a hill or mountain : down a slope • We slowly walked *downslope*. [=(more commonly) *downhill*] — opposite UPSLOPE
– **downslope** *adj* • *downslope* winds – **downslope** *noun, pl* **-slopes** [*count*] • We'll stop to rest on the *downslope*.

down·spout /ˈdaʊnˌspaʊt/ *noun, pl* **-spouts** [*count*] *US* : a pipe that carries rainwater from the roof of a building to the ground — called also *drainpipe*, (*Brit*) *downpipe*; see picture at HOUSE

Down's syndrome *noun* [*noncount*] *medical* : DOWN SYNDROME

down·stage /ˈdaʊnˈsteɪʤ/ *adv* : toward the front part of a stage • The actress walked *downstage* to address the audience.

[1]down·stairs /ˈdaʊnˈsteɚz/ *adv* : on or to a lower floor of a building • He ran *downstairs* to answer the door. • He lives *downstairs* from us. • "Where are the kids?" "They're *downstairs*."

[2]down·stairs /ˈdaʊnˌsteɚz/ *adj, always used before a noun* : located on a lower, main, or first floor of a building • the *downstairs* bathroom • There are five *downstairs* rooms.

[3]down·stairs /ˈdaʊnˈsteɚz/ *noun*
the downstairs : the lower and usually main floor of a building • *The downstairs* needs to be cleaned. • We painted *the downstairs*.

down·state /ˈdaʊnˌsteɪt/ *noun* [*noncount*] *US* : the southern part of a state • He is from *downstate*.
– **downstate** *adj* • *downstate* New York – **down·state** /ˈdaʊnˈsteɪt/ *adv* • She moved *downstate* last year. • He lives *downstate*.

down·stream /ˈdaʊnˈstriːm/ *adv* : in the direction in which a stream, river, etc., flows • The next town is six miles *downstream*. • float *downstream*

down·swing /ˈdaʊnˌswɪŋ/ *noun, pl* **-swings** [*count*]
1 : a situation in which something decreases or becomes worse • The company is experiencing a financial *downswing*. [=(more commonly) *downturn*] • The company's sales are ***on a/the downswing***. [=are decreasing]
2 *golf* : a forward and downward movement of a club as a golfer hits a shot

Down syndrome /ˈdaʊn-/ *noun* [*noncount*] *medical* : a condition that someone is born with and that causes below average mental abilities and problems in physical development. — called also *Down's, Down's syndrome*

down·time /ˈdaʊnˌtaɪm/ *noun* [*noncount*]
1 *US* : time when you are not working or busy • After a busy day at work, I look forward to some *downtime* at home. • The kids napped during their *downtime*.
2 : time during which a computer or machine is not working • We need to minimize network *downtime*.

down–to–earth *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : informal and easy to talk to • a *down-to-earth* person • He's very *down-to-earth* despite his fame.
2 : practical and sensible • *down-to-earth* advice • Students liked the teacher's *down-to-earth* approach.

[1]down·town /ˈdaʊnˌtaʊn/ *noun, pl* **-towns** [*count*] *chiefly US* : the main or central part of a city or town : the part of a city or town where there are tall buildings, stores, offices, etc. — usually singular • I live close to *downtown*. • The city's

downtown is thriving. — compare UPTOWN

[2]downtown /ˌdaʊnˈtaʊn/ *adv, chiefly US* : to, toward, or in the main or central part of a city or town • Does this bus go *downtown*? • We went shopping *downtown*.

– **downtown** *adj, always used before a noun* • *downtown* stores/restaurants • *downtown* Boston

down•trod•den /ˈdaʊnˈtrɑːdn̩/ *adj, somewhat formal* : without hope because of being treated badly by powerful people, governments, etc. • *downtrodden* people • They were poor and *downtrodden*.

the downtrodden : downtrodden people • He showed compassion for *the downtrodden*.

down•turn /ˈdaʊnˌtɚn/ *noun, pl* **-turns** [*count*] : a situation in which something (such as business or economic activity) decreases or becomes worse — usually singular • an economic *downturn* = a *downturn* in the economy • There's been a *downturn* in the housing market.

[1]down•ward (*chiefly US*) /ˈdaʊnwɚd/ *or chiefly Brit* **down•wards** /ˈdaʊnwɚdz/ *adv*

1 : from a higher place or level to a lower place or level • The mountain streams flow *downward* to the lake. • Heating costs rise as the temperature heads *downward*. [=as the weather becomes colder]

2 : toward the ground, floor, etc. : not up • The hawk flew *downward*. • The arrow pointed *downward*. • Mud covered his pants from the knees *downward*.

3 : toward people with less power, money, etc. • Everyone in the company, from the president *downward*, has been involved in these decisions. [=the president and all the employees with less authority, power, etc., have been involved]

4 : to a smaller amount : to a lower number • We received an estimate, but the number has since been revised *downward*.

[2]downward *adj, always used before a noun*

1 : moving or going from a higher place or level to a lower place or level • a *downward* slope • Sales continued their *downward* trend. • Her life was in a ***downward spiral*** [=a process of constantly getting worse] as she battled depression and addiction.

2 : moving or going toward the ground, floor, etc. • the hawk's *downward* flight

3 : changing to a smaller amount or lower number • the *downward* revision of an estimate

down•wind /ˈdaʊnˈwɪnd/ *adv* : in the direction that the wind is moving • We sailed *downwind*. — often + *of* or *from* • His clothes smelled like smoke after standing *downwind of* the campfire. • Pollution from the factory affects those who live *downwind from* it.

– **downwind** *adj* • the *downwind* side of a campfire

downy /ˈdaʊni/ *adj* **down•i•er; -est**

1 — used to describe small, soft feathers or something that resembles such feathers • the down feathers of a baby bird • her soft *downy* hair

2 : covered or filled with small, soft feathers or something like them • *downy* chicks/leaves/pillows

dow•ry /ˈdaʊri/ *noun, pl* **-ries** [*count*] : money or property that a wife or wife's family gives to her husband when the wife and husband marry in some cultures

dowse /ˈdaʊz/ *verb* **dows•es; dowsed; dows•ing** [*no obj*] : to search for an underground supply of water by using a special stick that leads you to it — usually + *for* • *dowse for* water

– **dows•er** *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

dowsing rod *noun, pl* ~ **rods** [*count*] : DIVINING ROD

doy•en /ˈdojən/ *noun, pl* **-ens** [*count*] *formal* : a person who has a lot of experience in or knowledge about a particular profession, subject, etc. • a fashion *doyen* • He is considered the *doyen* of political journalists/journalism.

doy•enne /dɔɪˈɛn/ *noun, pl* **-ennes** [*count*] : a woman who has a lot of experience in or knowledge about a particular profession, subject, etc. • the *doyenne* of the fashion industry

doz. *abbr* dozen

doze /ˈdoʊz/ *verb* **doz•es; dozed; doz•ing** [*no obj*] : to sleep lightly especially for a short period of time • He was *dozing* [=*napping*] on the sofa when I got home.

doze off [*phrasal verb*] : to fall asleep especially for a short period of time • A few students *dozed off* [=*nodded off, dropped off*] during the movie.

– **doze** *noun* [*singular*] • He drifted into a light *doze*.

doz•en /ˈdʌzn̩/ *noun, pl* **doz•ens** *or* **dozen**

1 *pl* ***dozen*** [*count*] : a group of 12 people or things • a *dozen* eggs [=12 eggs] • half a *dozen* eggs = a half-*dozen* eggs [=six eggs] • two *dozen* roses [=24 roses] • We'll need a couple *dozen* hot dogs for the party. [=we will need about 24 hot dogs] • A few *dozen* people were at the party. [=about 36 people were at the party] • She has published ***several dozen*** [=many, probably more than 36] poems. — see also BAKER'S DOZEN

2 *dozens* [*plural*] : large numbers of people or things • People entered the park ***by/in the dozens*** [=large groups of people entered the park] — often + *of* • *Dozens of* [=*many*] people were at the park. • The shop sells ***dozens and dozens of*** [=very many] kinds of tea.

a dime a dozen see DIME

six of one, half a dozen of the other see SIX

dozy /ˈdoʊzi/ *adj* **doz•i•er; -est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~] *informal*

1 : tired or sleepy • I feel *dozy*.

2 *Brit* : stupid or silly • He's a *dozy* old chap. • He's a little *dozy*.

dpi *abbr* dots per inch • an image with 72 *dpi* [=an image that is made of 72 dots of ink in each inch]

Dr. (*US*) *or Brit* **Dr** *abbr* **1** doctor • *Dr.* Jones **2** drive • The reception will be held at 27 Chestnut *Dr.*

drab /ˈdræb/ *adj* **drab•ber; drab•best** [*also more* ~; *most* ~] : not bright or colorful : too plain or dull to be interesting • *drab* buildings/clothes/offices/rooms • He lives a *drab* life. — see also OLIVE DRAB

– **drab•ly** *adv* • a *drably* dressed woman – **drab•ness** *noun* [*noncount*] • the *drabness* of the buildings

drabs /ˈdræbz/ *noun*

dribs and drabs see DRIBS

dra•co•ni•an /dreɪˈkoʊnijən/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* + *disapproving* : very severe or cruel • The editorial criticizes the *draconian* measures being taken to control the spread of the disease. • *draconian* punishments

[1]draft /ˈdræft, *Brit* ˈdrɑːft/ *noun, pl* **drafts**

1 [*count*] : a version of something (such as a document) that you make before you make the final version • The published poem differs quite a bit from earlier *drafts*. • I just completed a ***rough draft*** [=a first version that needs a lot of editing and rewriting] of my speech. • The ***final draft*** [=the final version] is due tomorrow.

2 *US* **draft** *or Brit* **draught** [*count*] : cool air moving in a closed space (such as a room) • You may want to seal the windows with plastic to stop *drafts*.

3 [*count*] *US* **a** : a system in which young people are required to join the armed forces of a country for a period of service — usually singular • There is debate about whether the country needs a *draft*. • Congress reinstated ***the draft*** — often used before another noun • He burned his *draft* card. • He's a ***draft dodger*** [=a person who illegally avoids joining the armed forces] **b** : a system by which professional sports teams choose players from college or high school teams — usually singular • He was chosen in the first round of the *draft*. — often used before another noun • *draft* day • He was a first-round *draft* pick.

4 *US* **draft** *or Brit* **draught** [*count*] *formal + literary* : an act of drinking something; *also* : the amount swallowed at one time • He took a big *draft* of beer.

5 *US* **draft** *or Brit* **draught** [*count*] : a beer that is stored in and poured from a large container • The bar has 15 different *drafts* on tap.

6 : an order for the payment of money from a person or bank to another person or bank [*count*] The bank issued a *draft*. [*noncount*] Payment must be made by ***bank draft***

7 *US* **draft** *or Brit* **draught** *technical* **a** : the depth of water that a boat needs in order to be able to float [*count*] — usually singular • a boat with a deep/shallow *draft* [*noncount*] a ship with 45 feet of *draft* **b** [*noncount*] : the depth of the water in a river, channel, etc. • a canal/channel that provides 60 feet of *draft*

8 *draught* [*count*] *Brit* : [2]CHECKER

on draft (*US*) *or Brit* ***on draught*** *of beer* : stored in and poured from a large container instead of in individual bottles or cans • The bar has beer *on draft*. [=*on tap*]

[2]draft *adj, always used before a noun*

1 *US* **draft** *or Brit* **draught** *of an animal* : used for pulling heavy loads • *draft* animals/horses

2 *US* **draft** *or Brit* **draught** *of beer* : stored in and poured from a large container • *draft* beer

3 : not yet in the final form • a *draft* law/constitution/treaty

[3]draft *verb* **drafts; draft•ed; draft•ing** [+ *obj*]

1 : to make a version of (something, such as a document or plan) that will need more work in order to be finished • He *drafted* a speech. • The two countries are *drafting* a treaty.

D

2 a : to choose (someone) for a special purpose ▪ The drama club *drafted* three teenagers to be in the parade. — often used as *(be/get) drafted* ▪ A few of us *were drafted* to help distribute flyers. ▪ He *got drafted* for the fall play. **b** *US* **:** to officially order (someone) to join the armed forces ▪ The legislature debated *drafting* more soldiers. — often used as *(be/get) drafted* ▪ He *was drafted* for the war. ▪ He *got drafted* into the army. **c** *US* **:** to choose (someone) to play on a professional sports team ▪ The new rule prohibits teams from *drafting* players under 18. — often used as *(be/get) drafted* ▪ He *was drafted* in the first round. ▪ He *got drafted* by the Jets.

draft•ee /ˌdræfˈtiː, *Brit* ˌdrɑːfˈtiː/ *noun, pl* **-ees** [*count*] *US*
1 : someone who is officially ordered to join the armed forces
2 : someone who is chosen to play on a professional sports team

draft•er /ˈdræftɚ, *Brit* ˈdrɑːftə/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]
1 : someone who writes an official or legal document (such as a law) based on the ideas that have been officially discussed ▪ the *drafters* of the amendment/constitution
2 : a person whose job is to make drawings that will be used to make machines, buildings, etc. **:** DRAFTSMAN
3 : someone who makes a version of something (such as a document or plan) that will need more work in order to be finished ▪ She spoke to the *drafter* of the report.

drafts•man /ˈdræftsmən, *Brit* ˈdrɑːftsmən/ *noun, pl* **drafts•men** /ˈdræftsmən, *Brit* ˈdrɑːftsmən/ [*count*]
1 *US* ***draftsman*** *or Brit* ***draughtsman*** **:** a person whose job is to make drawings that will be used to make machines, buildings, etc.
2 : someone who writes an official or legal document (such as a law) based on the ideas that have been officially discussed ▪ the *draftsmen* [=(more commonly) *drafters*] of the U.S. Constitution
3 *US* ***draftsman*** *or Brit* ***draughtsman*** **:** an artist who draws well ▪ Her use of color is not outstanding, but she is a first-rate *draftsman*.
– **drafts•man•ship** (*US*) *or Brit* **draughts•man•ship** /ˈdræftsmənˌʃɪp, *Brit* ˈdrɑːftsmənˌʃɪp/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ Her work shows sophisticated *draftsmanship*.

drafts•per•son (*US*) *or Brit* **draughts•per•son** /ˈdræftsˌpɚsn̩, *Brit* ˈdrɑːftsˌpɜːsn̩/ *noun, pl* **drafts•peo•ple** /ˈdræftsˌpiːpəl, *Brit* ˈdrɑːftsˌpiːpəl/ [*count*] **:** DRAFTSMAN ▪ She was one of the bill's *draftspeople*.

drafty (*US*) *or Brit* **draughty** /ˈdræfti, *Brit* ˈdrɑːfti/ *adj* **draf•ti•er**; **-est :** having cold air moving through in a way that is unpleasant or uncomfortable ▪ a *drafty* room ▪ The house is very *drafty*.
– **draft•i•ness** (*US*) *or Brit* **draught•i•ness** /ˈdræftinəs, *Brit* ˈdrɑːftinəs/ *noun* [*noncount*]

[1]drag /ˈdræg/ *verb* **drags**; **dragged**; **drag•ging**
1 [*+ obj*] **:** to pull (someone or something that is heavy or difficult to move) ▪ She *dragged* one of the other tables over to ours. ▪ Firefighters *dragged* the man to safety. ▪ One of the parents eventually *dragged* the screaming toddler out of the store. — often used figuratively ▪ She practically had to *drag* her husband to the opera. ▪ You *drag* me all the way out here only to tell me that the store is closed!? ▪ She was ***dragged kicking and screaming*** into the family business. [=she was forced to join the family business]
2 a [*no obj*] **:** to move along the ground, floor, etc., while being pulled ▪ Your scarf is *dragging*. ▪ The broken muffler *dragged* behind the car. ▪ The dog's leash was *dragging* along the ground. **b** [*+ obj*] **:** to cause (something) to move along the ground, floor, etc., by pulling it ▪ The child is always *dragging* his blanket. ▪ The puppy ran up to us, *dragging* her leash behind her.
3 a *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [*+ obj*] **:** to force (yourself) to move or to go to a place when you are tired, busy, etc. ▪ He *dragged* himself up the stairs and climbed into bed. ▪ Can you *drag* yourself away from that computer? ▪ I could barely *drag* myself out of bed. [=I had a hard time waking up] **b** [*no obj*] **:** to go or move more slowly than others ▪ Quit *dragging*—walk faster. ▪ The nation's economy is *dragging* [=(more commonly) *lagging*] behind the rest of the world.
4 [*+ obj*] **:** to bring (an unpleasant or complicated subject, fact, etc.) into a discussion or argument — *+ up* or *into* ▪ Do you always have to *drag* [=*dredge*] *up* the past? ▪ They can't seem to avoid *dragging* religion *into* politics. [=mentioning religion in a discussion about politics]
5 [*no obj*] **:** to go on for a long time in a way that seems slow and boring ▪ The movie was good, but I thought it *dragged* at the end. ▪ The hours seemed to *drag* (by) as the day went on.
6 [*+ obj*] **:** to pull a net or set of hooks through (a river, lake, pond, etc.) in order to search for or collect something ▪ Searchers used three boats to *drag* the river. ▪ They *dragged* [=*trawled*] the waters for fish.
7 [*+ obj*] *computers* **:** to move (items on a computer screen) by using a computer mouse ▪ *Drag* the file/picture to this folder.

drag down [*phrasal verb*] **1 *drag (someone) down* or *drag down (someone)*** **:** to force (someone) into a bad situation or condition ▪ We cannot let our enemies *drag* us *down* to their level. [=we should not let their bad behavior convince us to behave badly] **2 *drag (someone) down*** **:** to make (someone) unhappy ▪ You can't let her bad moods *drag* you *down*. **3 *drag down (something)* or *drag (something) down*** **:** to make (something) lower in amount or quality ▪ High energy costs are *dragging down* profits.

drag into [*phrasal verb*] ***drag (someone) into (something)*** **:** to involve (a person, group, etc.) in (a difficult or complicated situation) ▪ I'm sorry for *dragging* you *into* this. ▪ Don't *drag* the children *into* this. ▪ We will not let the country be *dragged into* another war. — see also [1]DRAG 4 (above)

drag on [*phrasal verb*] *disapproving* **:** to go on for a long time **:** to progress slowly ▪ The meeting *dragged on* until almost midnight. ▪ The lawsuit *dragged on* for years.

drag out [*phrasal verb*] **1 *drag out (something)* or *drag (something) out*** **:** to cause (something) to take more time than necessary ▪ He *dragged out* the speech much too long. ▪ Stop *dragging* the story *out* and get to the point. **2 *drag (something) out of (someone)*** **:** to force (something, such as a confession) from (someone) **:** to make (someone) tell you (something) ▪ The teacher eventually *dragged* a confession *out of* one of the students. ▪ Doctors sometimes have to *drag* information *out of* their patients.

drag someone's name through the mud **:** to publicly say false or bad things that harm someone's reputation ▪ My opponent has *dragged my name through the mud*.

drag your feet *also* ***drag your heels*** **:** to avoid doing something for a long time because you do not want to do it ▪ Quit *dragging your feet* and make a decision! ▪ After months of *dragging its heels*, Congress voted on the bill.

like something the cat dragged in see CAT

Look what the cat dragged in! see CAT

[2]drag *noun, pl* **drags**
1 [*singular*] *informal* **:** someone or something that is boring, annoying, or disappointing ▪ My parents can be such a *drag*. They won't let me do anything. ▪ These meetings are a total *drag*.
2 [*singular*] *informal* **:** someone or something that makes action or progress slower or more difficult — usually *+ on* ▪ High taxes have been a *drag on* the economy. ▪ The senator should resign before she becomes a *drag on* the party. [=before she causes people to vote for candidates in another political party]
3 [*count*] *informal* **:** the act of breathing in smoke from a cigarette, cigar, pipe, etc. ▪ Let me have a *drag* from your cigarette. ▪ He ***took a long drag on*** the cigarette.
4 [*noncount*] *physics* **:** the force of air that pushes against an airplane, a car, etc., as it moves forward ▪ The jet's sleek design reduces *drag*.
in drag **:** wearing clothes that are usually worn by the opposite sex ▪ They went to the party (dressed) *in drag*. ▪ She's *in drag*. [=dressed as a man]
– see also MAIN DRAG

drag•net /ˈdrægˌnɛt/ *noun, pl* **-nets** [*count*]
1 : a series of actions that are done by the police in order to catch criminals ▪ Nine suspects were caught in the police *dragnet*.
2 : a net that is pulled along the bottom of a river, lake, pond, etc., to search for or collect something

drag•on /ˈdrægən/ *noun, pl* **-ons** [*count*] **:** an imaginary animal that can breathe out fire and looks like a very large lizard with wings, a long tail, and large claws

drag•on•fly /ˈdrægənˌflaɪ/ *noun, pl* **-flies** [*count*] **:** a large insect that has a long thin body and four wings and that is often seen near water — see color picture on page C10

dragon lady *noun, pl* ~ **ladies** [*count*] *chiefly US, informal + disapproving* **:** a woman who is often angry or cruel especially when people do not do what she wants ▪ The new boss is a real *dragon lady*.

[1]dra•goon /drə'gu:n/ *noun, pl* **-goons** [*count*] *chiefly Brit* : a soldier especially in the past who rode a horse and carried a gun

[2]dragoon *verb* **-goons; -gooned; -goon•ing**
dragoon into [*phrasal verb*] ***dragoon (someone) into (something)*** : to force or convince (someone) to do (something) ▪ Somehow I was *dragooned into* working overtime.

drag queen *noun, pl* ~ **queens** [*count*] *informal* : a homosexual man who dresses as a woman especially to entertain people

drag race *noun, pl* ~ **races** [*count*] : a contest in which people race cars at very high speeds over a short distance – **drag racer** *noun, pl* ~ **-ers** [*count*] ▪ He is one of the best *drag racers* in the country. – **drag racing** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ He likes *drag racing*.

drag•ster /'drægstə/ *noun, pl* **-sters** [*count*] : a car that is made for drag racing

drag strip *noun, pl* ~ **strips** [*count*] : a place where drag races happen

[1]drain /'dreɪn/ *verb* **drains; drained; drain•ing**
1 a [+ *obj*] : to remove (liquid) from something by letting it flow away or out ▪ *Drain* the canned tomatoes before adding them to the pot. ▪ The swamp has been *drained*. — often + *from* ▪ *Drain* the fat/grease *from* the pan. ▪ We have to *drain* some water *from* the pool. **b** [*no obj*] *of a container* : to become empty of a liquid ▪ I was waiting for the bathtub to *drain*. ▪ The sink won't *drain*. **c** [*no obj*] *of a liquid* : to flow into, away from, or out of something ▪ The river *drains* into a lake. ▪ The ***blood/color drained from her face***. [=she got pale]
2 a [+ *obj*] : to cause (something) to lose something important — + *of* ▪ Years of civil war have *drained* the country *of* its resources. [=have used up the country's resources] ▪ Overuse has *drained* the phrase *of* all meaning. **b** : to slowly be used up or to cause (something) to slowly be used up [+ *obj*] Years of civil war have *drained* the country's resources. ▪ The city's emergency fund has been *drained*. [*no obj*] — usually + *away* ▪ She felt her anger *drain away*.
3 [+ *obj*] : to make (someone) very physically or mentally tired ▪ The work *drained* [=*exhausted*] me. ▪ I feel totally *drained* of energy this evening. ▪ Her work is very *draining*. [=*tiring*]
4 [+ *obj*] : to drink all of the liquid in (something) ▪ He *drained* the mug and left.
5 [+ *obj*] *US, sports, informal* : to make (a successful shot) in a very skillful and impressive way ▪ (*basketball*) She took a long jump shot and *drained* it. ▪ (*golf*) He *drained* the putt for a birdie.
drain off [*phrasal verb*] ***drain off (something)*** *or* ***drain (something) off*** **a** : to cause (a liquid) to flow away from something or to leave the surface of something ▪ When the beans have cooked long enough to be tender, *drain off* the water and set them aside. **b** : to take (something important or valuable) from something ▪ An independent candidate could *drain off* [=*siphon off*] votes from either party.

[2]drain *noun, pl* **drains** [*count*]
1 : something (such as a pipe) that is used for removing a liquid from a place or container ▪ He poured the spoiled milk down/into the *drain*. [=(*Brit*) *plughole*] ▪ The *drain* in the bathtub/sink is blocked/clogged. ▪ (*chiefly Brit*) They are repairing the *drains*. [=sewer system]
2 : something that uses a lot of time, money, etc. — usually singular; usually + *on* ▪ Tuition costs are a *drain on* the family income. ▪ The war has been a big *drain on* the country's resources. — see also BRAIN DRAIN
down the drain *informal* **1** — used to describe something that is being wasted or lost ▪ All my hard work ***went down the drain***. ▪ You're ***pouring your money down the drain***. [=you're wasting your money] **2** — used to describe something that is getting much worse ▪ The public schools are ***going down the drain***.

drain•age /'dreɪnɪʤ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the act or process of draining something : the act or process of removing water or liquid from a place or thing ▪ the *drainage* of swamps ▪ The soil has good *drainage*. [=extra water does not stay in the soil] ▪ The holes in the bottom of the flower pot are for *drainage*. [=are for the extra water to flow out] — often used before another noun ▪ a *drainage* system/basin/ditch/channel

drain•board /'dreɪn,boəd/ *noun, pl* **-boards** [*count*] *US* : a sloping area near a kitchen sink used for drying dishes — called also (*Brit*) *draining board*

drained /'dreɪnd/ *adj*
1 : with the water or liquid removed ▪ a *drained* swamp ▪ Add one cup tomatoes, *drained*. ▪ well-*drained* soil
2 *not used before a noun* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : very tired : EXHAUSTED ▪ I feel totally *drained*.

drain•pipe /'dreɪn,paɪp/ *noun, pl* **-pipes** [*count*]
1 : a pipe that carries rainwater from the roof of a building to the ground : DOWNSPOUT
2 *US* : a pipe that carries liquid waste and water away from buildings — see picture at PLUMBING

drake /'dreɪk/ *noun, pl* **drakes** [*count*] : a male duck

dram /'dræm/ *noun, pl* **drams** [*count*] : a small amount of an alcoholic drink ▪ a *dram* of whiskey

dra•ma /'drɑ:mə/ *noun, pl* **-mas**
1 a [*count*] : a piece of writing that tells a story and is performed on a stage ▪ He is reading an ancient Greek *drama*. **b** : a play, movie, television show, or radio show that is about a serious subject and is not meant to make the audience laugh [*count*] a television/radio *drama* ▪ a police *drama* [=a serious show about police work] [*noncount*] I prefer *drama* to comedy.
2 [*noncount*] : the art or activity of performing a role in a play, show, etc. : ACTING ▪ His interest in *drama* began at a very young age. ▪ She studied *drama* in college. ▪ *drama* school ▪ a *drama* teacher/student
3 : a situation or series of events that is exciting and that affects people's emotions [*count*] the *dramas* of teenage life ▪ She watched the *drama* unfold as they began screaming at each other. [*noncount*] a competition full of *drama* ▪ the *drama* of the courtroom proceedings ▪ a moment of ***high drama*** [=a very exciting and dramatic moment]

Dram•a•mine /'dræmə,mi:n/ *trademark* — used for a drug that people take to prevent nausea

drama queen *noun, pl* ~ **queens** [*count*] *disapproving* : a person (especially a woman) who acts as though things are much worse than they really are

dra•mat•ic /drə'mætɪk/ *adj*
1 [*more* ~; *most* ~] **a** : sudden and extreme ▪ His parents noticed a *dramatic* change/improvement/difference in his behavior. ▪ There was a *dramatic* increase/decrease/rise/fall in prices. **b** : greatly affecting people's emotions ▪ the team's *dramatic* [=*exciting*] overtime victory ▪ The book tells the *dramatic* story of her battle with cancer. **c** : attracting attention : causing people to carefully listen, look, etc. ▪ She made a *dramatic* entrance wearing a bright red dress. ▪ There was a *dramatic* pause before his big announcement. ▪ The painter used *dramatic* colors/accents. **d** : often showing a lot of emotion : tending to behave and react in an exaggerated way ▪ Oh, you're fine—don't be so *dramatic*. [=*melodramatic*]
2 *always used before a noun* : of or relating to plays and the performance of plays ▪ They are members of the local *dramatic* society.
– **dra•mat•i•cal•ly** /drə'mætɪkli/ *adv* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ His behavior has improved *dramatically*. [=very much] ▪ They called to us from shore, waving their arms *dramatically*. [=using large motions]

dra•mat•ics /drə'mætɪks/ *noun*
1 [*plural*] : behavior that is very emotional in a way that does not seem sincere : exaggerated behavior ▪ a child prone to *dramatics*
2 [*noncount*] : the study or practice of acting in or producing plays ▪ She is studying/learning *dramatics* in school. — see also AMATEUR DRAMATICS

dra•ma•tis per•so•nae /,dræmətəspə'soʊni/ *noun* [*plural*] *formal* : the characters or actors in a play, movie, etc.

dram•a•tist /'dræmətɪst/ *noun, pl* **-tists** [*count*]
1 : someone who writes plays : PLAYWRIGHT ▪ the American *dramatist* Arthur Miller
2 : someone who writes dramas (sense 1b) ▪ a radio/television *dramatist*

dram•a•tize *also Brit* **dram•a•tise** /'dræmə,taɪz/ *verb* **-tizes; -tized; -tiz•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to make (a book, an event, etc.) into a play, movie, television show, etc. ▪ The movie *dramatizes* her early life. ▪ The book is *dramatized* in a new play.
2 : to make a situation seem more important or serious than it really is ▪ I know I tend to *dramatize* things but it really was awful.
3 : to show (something that might not be noticed) in a clear and effective way ▪ She cited a series of statistics to *dramatize* the seriousness of the problem. ▪ This tragedy *dramatizes* the need for improvements in highway safety.
– **dram•a•ti•za•tion** *also Brit* **dram•a•ti•sa•tion**

/ˌdræmətəˈzeɪʃən, *Brit* ˌdræməˌtaɪˈzeɪʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions** [*count*] — often + *of* ▪ a radio *dramatization of* the novel ▪ The TV show included many *dramatizations of* actual events. [*noncount*] The novel is not fit for *dramatization*.

drank *past tense of* [1]DRINK

drape /ˈdreɪp/ *verb* **drapes**; **draped**; **drap•ing**

1 a [+ *obj*] : to loosely place or hang (something) ▪ We'll *drape* strings of lights between the trees for the party. — often + *over* or *around* ▪ He had one leg *draped over* the arm of the sofa. ▪ She *draped* the coat *around* my shoulders. ▪ He had a scarf *draped around* his neck. **b** [*no obj*] *of cloth* : to hang in a pleasing way ▪ This silk *drapes* beautifully.

2 [+ *obj*] : to cover (someone or something) with a cloth — usually + *with* or *in* ▪ The police *draped* the body *with* a blanket. ▪ The tables were *draped in* linen. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ She was *draped in* gold chains. [=she was wearing many gold chains]

drap•ery /ˈdreɪpəri/ *noun, pl* **-er•ies**

1 *US* : long heavy curtains [*plural*] We bought new *draperies* [=(more commonly) *drapes*] for the room. [*noncount*] (*somewhat formal*) I'd like to replace the *drapery* in the living room.

2 [*noncount*] : a decorative cloth that is arranged or hung in loose folds ▪ The painter arranged several items among *drapery* and began to work.

drapes /ˈdreɪps/ *noun* [*plural*] *chiefly US* : long heavy curtains ▪ This room needs new *drapes*.

dras•tic /ˈdræstɪk/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : extreme in effect or action : severe or serious ▪ The situation calls for *drastic* measures/action. ▪ *drastic* cuts/reductions in spending ▪ Maybe we should try something less *drastic* first.

– **dras•ti•cal•ly** /ˈdræstɪkli/ *adv* ▪ In recent years, the town's population has declined *drastically*. [=(more commonly) *dramatically*] ▪ The neighborhood has *drastically* changed.

drat /ˈdræt/ *interj, informal + old-fashioned* — used to show that you are annoyed or disappointed ▪ *Drat*! I forgot the tickets.

drat•ted /ˈdrætəd/ *adj, always used before a noun, informal + old-fashioned* : annoying or disappointing ▪ That *dratted* [=*darn, darned*] dog is back again.

[1]**draught** *Brit spelling of* DRAFT

[2]**draught** /ˈdræft, *Brit* ˈdrɑːft/ *noun, pl* **draughts** [*count*] *Brit* : [2]CHECKER

draught•board /ˈdræftˌboəd, *Brit* ˈdrɑːftˌbɔːd/ *noun, pl* **-boards** [*count*] *Brit* : CHECKERBOARD

draughts /ˈdræfts, *Brit* ˈdrɑːfts/ *noun* [*noncount*] *Brit* : CHECKERS

draughtsman, draughtsperson, draughty *Brit spellings of* DRAFTSMAN, DRAFTSPERSON, DRAFTY

[1]**draw** /ˈdrɑː/ *verb* **draws**; **drew** /ˈdruː/; **drawn** /ˈdrɑːn/; **draw•ing**

1 : to make (a picture, image, etc.) by making lines on a surface especially with a pencil, pen, marker, chalk, etc., but not usually with paint [+ *obj*] He *drew* me a picture of the bike. = He *drew* a picture of the bike for me. ▪ The computer can *draw* the graph for you. ▪ Students *drew* maps of the states and labeled them. [*no obj*] You *draw* very well. ▪ She sat down and began to *draw*. — compare PAINT

2 [+ *obj*] : to cause (attention) to be given *to* someone or something ▪ The case has *drawn* attention *to* the fact that many athletes never graduate. ▪ I would like to *draw* your attention *to* the third line. ▪ He didn't want to *draw* attention *to* himself. [=he did not want to cause people to notice him]

3 [+ *obj*] **a** : to cause (someone or something) to come : to attract (someone or something) ▪ The band always *draws* a large crowd. ▪ She felt *drawn* [=*attracted*] to the young man. ▪ The college *draws* students from around the world. ▪ The animals were *drawn* to the campsite by the smell of food. ▪ We hope the display in the window will *draw* customers in from the street. ▪ The lure of city life has *drawn* away many of the town's young people. ▪ My eye was *drawn* to the painting. [=some characteristic of the painting made me want to look at it] **b** : to cause (someone) to become involved or interested in something or someone — + *in, into*, or *to* ▪ What first *drew* you *to* teaching? ▪ A good writer knows how to *draw* readers *in*. [=how to make readers interested; how to make people want to read something] — often used as *(be/get) drawn* ▪ She *was drawn in* by his friendly manner. [=she wanted to know and talk to him because he was friendly] ▪ She *got drawn into* the conversation.

4 [+ *obj*] : to get or receive (something) ▪ a television show that has *drawn* consistently high ratings ▪ The player *drew* a foul. : to get (a particular response or reaction) ▪ His speech *drew* cheers from the crowd. ▪ The movie has *drawn* much criticism/praise from critics. ▪ He is a talented high school athlete who has *drawn* the interest of several major colleges. ▪ The principal's remarks have ***drawn fire*** [=attracted angry criticism] from both parents and teachers.

5 a *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [*no obj*] : to move in a specified direction ▪ She *drew* away from the spider. ▪ He opened the door and *drew* back in horror/shock/fear. ▪ The car *drew* (up) alongside us. ▪ The train *drew* [=pulled] into the station. ▪ She *drew* her eyebrows together in a frown of concentration. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ He *drew* away [=(more commonly) *withdrew*] from his family. **b** [+ *obj*] : to move (something) by pulling ▪ a carriage *drawn* by horses = a horse-*drawn* carriage ▪ *Draw* the curtains/blinds/shades. [=open or close the curtains/blinds/shades] ▪ a special fabric that *draws* moisture away from the skin ▪ She *drew* the blanket over her head. ▪ *Draw* up a chair and join us. [=bring a chair to where we are and sit down with us] ▪ She sat down in the chair and ***drew up her knees/legs*** [=she bent her legs and moved her knees toward her chest] — sometimes used figuratively ▪ The tragedy *drew* us closer together. [=made us emotionally closer]

6 [*no obj*] : to move gradually or steadily in time or space ▪ The lion *drew* closer to its prey. ▪ The sun is setting and the day is ***drawing to a close*** [=*ending*] ▪ Spring is ***drawing near/nigh*** [=*approaching*] ▪ The car ***drew to a halt/stop*** [=the car slowed down and stopped]

7 [+ *obj*] **a** : to form (something, such as an idea or conclusion) after thinking carefully about information you have ▪ You can *draw* your own conclusions. — often + *from* ▪ a writer who *draws* ideas *from* newspaper stories ▪ We can ***draw lessons from*** past mistakes. [=we can learn from past mistakes] **b** : to describe how two or more things are similar or different : to make (a comparison, distinction, etc.) *between* two or more things ▪ Many people have been *drawing* comparisons *between* the two movies. [=have been saying that the movies are similar] ▪ She *drew* important distinctions *between* the two methods. [=described important ways that the two methods are different]

8 a [+ *obj*] : to take (something) out of a container, pocket, etc. ▪ They were arguing, and then one of them *drew* [=*pulled*] a gun. ▪ One of the thieves *drew* a knife on her. [=one of the thieves took a knife out of a pocket, container, etc., and pointed it at her] ▪ She *drew* water from the well. — see also *at daggers drawn* at DAGGER **b** [+ *obj*] : to cause (something) to come out of a source ▪ He *drew* [=*ran*] water for a bath. **c** [+ *obj*] : to get (something) *from* a source ▪ The car also *draws* power *from* a battery. ▪ She *draws* strength/inspiration *from* her loving family. **d** : to take (a card) from a group of cards [+ *obj*] *Draw* four cards. [*no obj*] You haven't *drawn* yet.

9 a [+ *obj*] : to choose (a thing) from a group without knowing which one you are choosing ▪ She *drew* the winning number/ticket. ▪ We *drew* names from a hat to decide who would go on the trip. ▪ (*Brit*) The U.S. team have been ***drawn against*** [=chosen to play against] Greece in the first round. — see also *draw lots* at LOT **b** [*no obj*] : to decide something by choosing something from a group ▪ We'll *draw* to see who will drive. — see also DRAW STRAWS (below)

10 [+ *obj*] : to make (something, such as a legal document) in a proper or legal form ▪ We hired a lawyer to *draw* a will. — often + *up* ▪ They *drew up* a contract/proposal/plan/list.

11 a [+ *obj*] : to take (something, such as air or smoke) into your lungs by breathing ▪ She *drew* a deep breath before responding. — often + *in* ▪ He *drew* the fresh air *in*. = He *drew in* the fresh air. **b** [*no obj*] : to let air flow through ▪ Make sure the chimney is *drawing* properly. ▪ The pipe *draws* well.

12 [+ *obj*] **a** : to take (money) from a bank account : WITHDRAW — usually + *from* or *out* ▪ He *drew* $100 *from* the bank. ▪ She *drew out* the money. **b** : to receive (money) regularly from an employer, government, bank, etc. ▪ He *draws* a salary of about $100,000. ▪ He *draws* unemployment benefits. ▪ She has started to *draw* her pension. **c** : to write (a check) and have money taken from a bank account ▪ You are now authorized to *draw* checks from the corporate account.

13 *Brit* : to finish a game, contest, etc., without having a winner : TIE [+ *obj*] We *drew* [=(*US*) *tied*] the game 3–3. [*no obj*] The teams *drew* [=(*US*) *tied*] 3–3. [=each team scored three points] — often + *against* ▪ The teams have *drawn against* each other.

14 [+ *obj*] *archery* : to bend (a bow) by pulling back the string ▪ He *drew* his bow and aimed at the target.

15 [+ *obj*] *Brit* : to cause (someone) to say more about something especially by questioning — often used as *(be) drawn*; usually + *on* ▪ She refused to *be drawn on* whether the company is considering a merger.

16 [+ *obj*] *technical, of a boat* : to need (a particular depth of water) in order to float ▪ The ship *draws* 45 feet of water.

draw a bead on see BEAD

draw a blank see [2]BLANK

draw a/the line see [1]LINE

draw blood see BLOOD

draw in your horns see [1]HORN

draw off [*phrasal verb*] ***draw off (something)*** *or* ***draw (something) off*** : to take or remove (something) from a source or supply ▪ They illegally *drew off* thousands of dollars that had been donated to the charity.

draw on/upon [*phrasal verb*] **1** ***draw on*** *literary* : to come closer in time ▪ It became colder as night *drew on*. [=*approached*] **2** ***draw on/upon (something)*** **a** : to use (something) as a source or supply ▪ The family is *drawing on/upon* the community for support. **b** : to use (information, experience, knowledge, etc.) to make something ▪ Her new book *draws on* her personal experience as a firefighter. ▪ The report *draws upon* several recent studies. **3** ***draw on (something)*** : to breathe in smoke from (a cigarette, cigar, pipe, etc.) ▪ He *drew on* his cigarette.

draw out [*phrasal verb*] **1** ***draw (something) out*** *or* ***draw out (something)*** : to cause (something) to leave a source or supply ▪ Trees *draw* water *out* of the soil. ▪ Salt will *draw out* moisture from vegetables. **2** ***draw (something) out*** *or* ***draw out (something)*** : to cause (something) to last longer than the usual or expected amount of time ▪ Questions *drew* the meeting *out* for another hour. ▪ The movie's love scene was *drawn out*. — see also DRAWN-OUT, LONG-DRAWN-OUT **3** ***draw (someone) out*** *or* ***draw out (someone)*** : to cause (someone) to talk freely ▪ She tried to *draw* the frightened child *out* by asking him questions about his toys. ▪ The reporter had an ability to *draw out* people.

draw straws ✧ If you *draw straws*, you choose a stick from a group of sticks that are different sizes but that are being held in such a way that they look like they are all the same size. Usually, whoever chooses the shortest stick or ***gets/draws the short straw*** will have to do a particular thing. ▪ Let's *draw straws* to see who will drive. ▪ He *drew the short straw* so he has to drive.

draw the blinds/curtain/shades on : to end (something that has been continuing for a long time) ▪ Let's *draw the curtain on* this investigation. — see also [1]DRAW 5b (above)

draw up [*phrasal verb*] **1** *of a vehicle* : to approach and stop at a place ▪ A car *drew up* [=*pulled up*] in front of the house. **2** ***draw (yourself) up*** : to stand as straight and tall as you can ▪ He *drew himself up* to (his) full height. — see also [1]DRAW 10 (above)

[2]draw *noun, pl* **draws** [*count*]

1 : someone or something that causes a lot of people to come to a place : ATTRACTION ▪ Their band is the main *draw* at the festival. ▪ The festival is always a big *draw*.

2 : the final result of a game, contest, etc., that does not have a winner : TIE ▪ The game ended in a *draw*. = The game was a *draw*. [=both teams/players had the same score] ▪ They played to a 3–3 *draw*. [=each team/player had 3 points when the game ended]

3 *chiefly Brit* : DRAWING ▪ Who won the (prize) *draw*? — often + *for* ▪ The *draw for* the raffle will take place in one hour.

4 : an act of breathing in smoke from a cigarette, cigar, pipe, etc. : DRAG — often + *on* or *from* ▪ He ***took a long draw on/from*** his cigarette.

be quick on the draw : to be quick about removing a gun from where it is kept : to quickly draw a gun and be ready to shoot it — often used figuratively ▪ When the huge crowd suddenly became unruly, security *was quick on the draw*. [=security reacted very quickly] ▪ Critics may have *been* a little too *quick on the draw*.

the luck of the draw see [1]LUCK

draw•back /ˈdrɑːˌbæk/ *noun, pl* **-backs** [*count*] : something that causes problems : DISADVANTAGE ▪ The only *drawback* [=*downside*] to the plan is that we don't have the time it requires. ▪ The trip sounds great, but cost is a major *drawback*.

draw•bridge /ˈdrɑːˌbrɪʤ/ *noun, pl* **-bridg•es** [*count*] : a bridge that can be raised up so that people cannot cross it or so that boats can pass under it ▪ raise/lower the *drawbridge*

draw•er /ˈdrɑːɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers**

1 [*count*] : a box that slides into and out of a piece of furniture (such as a desk) and that is used to store things ▪ the top/middle/bottom *drawer* of the desk/dresser ▪ There are some pens in my desk *drawer*. ▪ a sock/cash *drawer* [=a drawer for storing socks/cash] — see picture at OFFICE; see also CHEST OF DRAWERS

2 ***drawers*** [*plural*] *old-fashioned* + *humorous* : underwear for the lower part of the body ▪ He stood there in only his *drawers*. — often used informally in the phrase ***drop your drawers*** ▪ At least the doctor didn't make me *drop my drawers*. [=pull down my underpants]

draw•ing /ˈdrɑːɪŋ/ *noun, pl* **-ings**

1 a [*count*] : a picture, image, etc., that is made by making lines on a surface with a pencil, pen, marker, chalk, etc., but usually not with paint ▪ She made a *drawing* of my house. ▪ pencil *drawings* of flowers — see also LINE DRAWING **b** [*noncount*] : the act or art of making a picture, image, etc., with a pencil, pen, marker, chalk, etc., but usually not with paint ▪ I've always loved *drawing*. — see also MECHANICAL DRAWING

2 [*count*] *US* : an act of choosing something (such as a winning ticket) from a group without knowing which one you are choosing ▪ Who won the (prize) *drawing*? — often + *for* ▪ The *drawing for* the raffle will take place in one hour. — called also (*chiefly Brit*) *draw*

drawing board *noun, pl* ~ **boards**

1 [*count*] : a large flat board that is used for holding paper for drawing; *also* : DRAWING TABLE

2 [*noncount*] : the time during which something is being planned : the planning stage of something ▪ Plans for the new stadium are ***on the drawing board***. [=are being created] ▪ The project will never get ***off the drawing board***. [=will never go beyond the planning stage] ▪ The company went ***back to the drawing board*** [=started over] to make a better product.

drawing pin *noun, pl* ~ **pins** [*count*] *Brit* : THUMBTACK

drawing power *noun* [*noncount*] : the ability to attract a lot of people to a performance, event, etc. ▪ The team has a lot of *drawing power*. — called also (*chiefly Brit*) *pulling power*

drawing room *noun, pl* ~ **rooms** [*count*] *formal* + *old-fashioned* : a formal room that is used for spending time with guests or relaxing

drawing table *noun, pl* ~ **-bles** [*count*] : a table that has a surface that can be raised up or down or turned to different angles and that is used for drawing

drawl /ˈdrɑːl/ *verb* **drawls**; **drawled**; **drawl•ing** : to speak slowly with vowel sounds that are longer than usual [+ *obj*] "Well, hello there," she *drawled*. ▪ He *drawled* his name in a Southern accent. [*no obj*] a *drawling* voice

– **drawl** *noun, pl* **drawls** [*count*] — usually singular ▪ He had a charming Southern *drawl*. ▪ She spoke with a *drawl*.

[1]drawn *past participle of* [1]DRAW

[2]drawn /ˈdrɑːn/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : looking very thin and tired especially from worry, pain, or illness ▪ His illness left him looking very pale and *drawn*. ▪ She had a *drawn* face.

drawn–out *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : continuing for or taking a long time ▪ We're trying to avoid a *drawn-out* process. — compare LONG-DRAWN-OUT

draw•string /ˈdrɑːˌstrɪŋ/ *noun, pl* **-strings** [*count*] : a string that can be pulled to close or tighten something (such as a bag or a piece of clothing) ▪ a *drawstring* bag ▪ *drawstring* pants [=pants that have a drawstring at the waist]

[1]dread /ˈdrɛd/ *verb* **dreads**; **dread•ed**; **dread•ing** [+ *obj*] : to fear something that will or might happen ▪ He can't swim and *dreads* going in the water. ▪ She *dreaded* making speeches in front of large audiences. ▪ I *dread* the day I will have to leave my friends. ▪ I *dread* the thought of moving next week. ▪ I ***dread to think*** about what they might do next.

– **dreaded** *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ The *dreaded* moment had arrived. ▪ a *dreaded* disease ▪ the *dreaded* word "cancer"

[2]dread *noun, pl* **dreads**

1 : a strong feeling of fear about something that will or might happen [*singular*] She has a *dread* of failure. ▪ He ***lives with the/a constant dread*** of rejection. [*noncount*] She awaited her punishment with *dread*. ▪ The news about the war ***fills me with dread***. ▪ They live ***in constant dread*** of another attack. ***synonyms*** see [1]FEAR

2 [*count*] : a person or thing that causes fear — usually singular ▪ They lived in tight rows of wooden houses, and fire was a constant *dread*.

3 ***dreads*** [*plural*] *informal* : DREADLOCKS

[3]dread *adj, always used before a noun, formal* : causing great fear ▪ a *dread* [=*dreaded*] disease

dread•ful /ˈdrɛdfəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : very bad or unpleasant ▪ Her performance was absolutely/simply *dreadful*. ▪ She has a *dreadful* [=*awful, terrible*] cold. ▪ Those children have such *dreadful* manners. ▪ What *dreadful* weather! ▪ a *dreadful* mistake/accident ▪ a *dreadful* storm/scream
– **dread•ful•ly** /ˈdrɛdfəli/ *adv* ▪ a *dreadfully* bad performance ▪ *dreadfully* [=*extremely*] dull ▪ He was *dreadfully* lonely. ▪ I miss you *dreadfully*. [=very much]

dread•locks /ˈdrɛdˌlɑːks/ *noun* [*plural*] : hair that is twisted together into long pieces that hang down around your shoulders ✧ *Dreadlocks* are often worn by people who are Rastafarians. — called also *dreads*; see picture at HAIR

[1]dream /ˈdriːm/ *noun, pl* **dreams**
1 [*count*] : a series of thoughts, visions, or feelings that happen during sleep ▪ He had a *dream* about climbing a mountain. ▪ You were in my *dream* last night. ▪ Scary movies always give me ***bad dreams***. [=*nightmares*] ▪ "Good night, my love. ***Sweet dreams***." [=I hope you will sleep well and have pleasant dreams] — see also WET DREAM
2 [*count*] : an idea or vision that is created in your imagination and that is not real ▪ She indulged in *dreams* [=*fantasies*] of living in a palace. ▪ I've found ***the man/woman of my dreams***. ▪ They succeeded ***beyond their wildest dreams***. ▪ ***Never in my wildest dreams*** did I imagine it would be so much fun. ▪ If you think the work will be easy, you're ***living in a dream world***.
3 a [*count*] : something that you have wanted very much to do, be, or have for a long time ▪ He has had a lifelong *dream* of becoming an actor. ▪ It's a *dream* of mine to own a house in the country. ▪ Tell me your hopes and *dreams*. ▪ She followed/fulfilled her *dreams*. ▪ Making it to the Olympics was a ***dream come true***. ▪ Many believe that worldwide peace is an ***impossible dream***. — see also AMERICAN DREAM, PIPE DREAM **b** [*singular*] : someone or something that has the qualities that a person wants most ▪ The meal was a garlic lover's *dream*. ▪ He's every woman's *dream*. — usually used before another noun ▪ She's still trying to find her *dream* husband. ▪ Managing a professional baseball team is his ***dream job***. ▪ They just moved into their ***dream home***. — see also DREAM TEAM
4 [*singular*] *informal* : something that is beautiful, excellent, or pleasing ▪ It's a *dream* of a house. ▪ The new car is a *dream* to drive. = The new car drives ***like a dream***. ▪ My new computer works *like a dream*. [=works very well]
5 [*singular*] : a state or condition in which you are not thinking about or aware of the real things that are around you ▪ He was walking around ***in a dream***.
in your dreams *informal* — used to say that you do not think something that another person wants or expects will ever happen ▪ "Maybe my parents will lend me the car tonight." "*In your dreams*."

[2]dream *verb* **dreams**; **dreamed** /ˈdrɛmt, ˈdriːmd/ *or* **dreamt** /ˈdrɛmt/; **dream•ing**
1 : to have visions and thoughts in your sleep : to have a dream while you are sleeping [*no obj*] — often + *of* or *about* ▪ He *dreamed of* drowning and woke up trembling. ▪ I have trouble remembering the things I *dream about*. [+ *obj*] Last night I *dreamed* (that) you were here talking to me. ▪ Did it really happen or did I just *dream* it?
2 : to think about something that you wish would happen or something that you want to do or be [*no obj*] He tends to *dream* big but he never really does the things he dreams of doing. ▪ She stared out the window *dreaming*. [=*daydreaming*] ▪ ***You're dreaming*** [=you're completely wrong] if you think being a parent is going to be easy. — often + *of* ▪ She spent hours reading love stories and *dreaming of* romance. ▪ They *dreamed of* success. ▪ He *dreamed of* becoming a teacher. [+ *obj*] As a child, I always *dreamed* (that) I would be an astronaut when I grew up. ▪ I sat on the porch and ***dreamed away*** the day. [=I spent the whole day thinking and dreaming] ▪ I ***never dreamt*** that it would be so difficult. [=it was much more difficult than I expected it to be]
dream on *informal* — used to say that you do not think something that another person wants or expects will ever happen ▪ "I think my band will be famous one day." "*Dream on*."
dream up [*phrasal verb*] ***dream up (something)*** *also* ***dream (something) up*** : to think of or invent (something) in your mind ▪ He *dreams up* all sorts of fantastic adventures. ▪ She tries a lot of new recipes that she *dreams up* herself. ▪ They *dreamed up* a plan to get the information.
never/not dream of — used to say that you would never do something or think of doing something ▪ I ***would never dream of*** asking for more money. ▪ "Did you ever do anything to hurt her?" "I ***wouldn't dream of it***!"

dream•boat /ˈdriːmˌboʊt/ *noun, pl* **-boats** [*count*] *informal* + *old-fashioned* : a very attractive person — usually used of a man ▪ an actor who's a real *dreamboat*

dream•er *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]
1 *disapproving* : a person whose ideas and plans are not practical or based in reality ▪ I am a realist, but my sister is a *dreamer*.
2 : a person who dreams while sleeping ▪ Some *dreamers* talk in their sleep to the people in their dreams.

dream•land /ˈdriːmˌlænd/ *noun, informal* : a pleasant place or situation that exists only in the mind [*noncount*] Bored with the classroom lecture, she drifted off to *dreamland*. [=she started daydreaming] ▪ (*disapproving*) He's in *dreamland* [=he's dreaming] if he thinks he can get by without a full-time job. [*singular*] He's living in a *dreamland*.

dream•less /ˈdriːmləs/ *adj, of sleep* : without dreams : deep and peaceful ▪ She fell into a *dreamless* sleep.

dream•like /ˈdriːmˌlaɪk/ *adj* : seeming to exist in a dream : like a dream ▪ Her photographs have a *dreamlike* quality.

dreamt *past tense and past participle of* [2]DREAM

dream team *noun, pl* ~ **teams** [*count*] : a group of people who work or play a sport together and who are the best at what they do — usually singular ▪ She got a legal *dream team* to work on the case.

dreamy /ˈdriːmi/ *adj* **dream•i•er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : tending to dream instead of thinking about what is real or practical ▪ She was a *dreamy* young woman who never gave much serious thought to her future.
2 : having a quality which shows or suggests that you are not noticing or thinking about what is happening around you ▪ He gazed at me with a *dreamy* look in his eyes.
3 : pleasant, peaceful, and relaxing ▪ *dreamy* music
4 *informal* + *old-fashioned* : very attractive ▪ Her boyfriend is so *dreamy*.
– **dream•i•ly** /ˈdriːməli/ *adv* ▪ She spoke *dreamily* of traveling around the world. ▪ They stared *dreamily* into each other's eyes. – **dream•i•ness** /ˈdriːminəs/ *noun* [*noncount*]

drea•ry /ˈdriri/ *adj* **drea•ri•er**; **-ri•est** [*or more* ~; *most* ~] : causing unhappiness or sad feelings : not warm, cheerful, etc. ▪ It was a gray, *dreary* morning. ▪ She longed to leave her *dreary* [=*gloomy, dismal*] hometown. ▪ The family struggled through *dreary* economic times.
– **drea•ri•ly** /ˈdrirəli/ *adv* [*more* ~; *most* ~] ▪ He spoke *drearily* of his meager job prospects. – **drea•ri•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

dreck /ˈdrɛk/ *noun* [*noncount*] *US, informal* : something that is of very bad quality : trash or rubbish ▪ The movie was pure *dreck*.

[1]dredge /ˈdrɛʤ/ *verb* **dredg•es**; **dredged**; **dredg•ing**
1 : to remove mud from the bottom of (a lake, river, etc.) in order to deepen it or to search for something [+ *obj*] They *dredged* the river. [*no obj*] They are *dredging* for oysters.
2 [+ *obj*] : to dig (something) out of the bottom of a lake, river, etc. ▪ They *dredged* sand from the river to add to the eroding beach. ▪ They *dredge* oysters in the bay. — often + *up* ▪ They are *dredging up* silt from the canal bottom.
dredge up [*phrasal verb*] ***dredge up (something)*** *or* ***dredge (something) up*** : to start talking or thinking again about (something unpleasant that happened a long time ago) ▪ Reporters *dredged up* the fact that the senator avoided the military draft. ▪ She didn't like to *dredge up* bad memories.
– compare [3]DREDGE

[2]dredge *noun, pl* **dredges** [*count*] : a machine or boat that removes mud, sand, etc., from the bottom or a lake, river, etc. — called also *dredger*

[3]dredge *verb* **dredges**; **dredged**; **dredg•ing** [+ *obj*] : to lightly cover (food) with a dry substance (such as sugar or flour) — often + *with* or *in* ▪ *Dredge* the fish *in* flour before frying it. ▪ The cookies had been *dredged with* powdered sugar. — compare [1]DREDGE

dredg•er /ˈdrɛʤɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : [2]DREDGE

dregs /ˈdrɛgz/ *noun* [*plural*]
1 : solid materials that fall to the bottom of a container full of a liquid ▪ the *dregs* in a bottle of wine ▪ He discarded the *dregs* of his coffee.
2 : the worst or most useless part of something ▪ people who were regarded as the ***dregs of society***

drench /ˈdrɛnʧ/ *verb* **drench•es**; **drenched**; **drench•ing** [+ *obj*] : to make (someone or something) completely wet —

often + *with* or *in* ▪ She *drenched* him *with* a bucket of cold water. — often used as *(be) drenched* ▪ The players *were drenched in* sweat after the game. ▪ pancakes *drenched in* syrup ▪ She was *drenched in* perfume. [=she was wearing a lot of perfume] — sometimes used figuratively ▪ a beach *drenched in* sunlight ▪ Her novels are *drenched in* history. — see also SUN-DRENCHED

[1]dress /ˈdrɛs/ *verb* **dress•es; dressed; dress•ing**

1 a [+ *obj*] : to put clothes on (yourself or someone else) ▪ They *dressed* themselves in a hurry. ▪ He *dressed* the child in a snowsuit. — opposite UNDRESS **b** [*no obj*] : to put clothes on yourself ▪ She showered, *dressed*, and ate breakfast. — opposite UNDRESS

2 [*no obj*] **a** : to put on or wear a particular type or style of clothes ▪ She *dressed* warmly for skiing. ▪ He *dresses* fashionably/well. ▪ She always *dresses* in black (clothes). **b** : to put on or wear formal clothes ▪ She is *dressing* for the opera. ▪ They always *dress* for dinner.

3 [+ *obj*] : to clean, put medicine on, and cover (a wound) ▪ The nurse *dressed* the cut on my knee.

4 [+ *obj*] : to prepare (food) for cooking or eating ▪ *dress* the chicken/salad

5 [+ *obj*] : to decorate (something, especially a window) for display ▪ His job is to *dress* the store window for the holiday.

6 [+ *obj*] *technical* : to prepare (wood, stone, leather, etc.) for use

dress down [*phrasal verb*] **1** : to wear informal clothes ▪ Most of the students *dress down* for class, usually wearing jeans and T-shirts. ▪ On Fridays everyone in the office *dresses down*. — see also DRESS-DOWN **2** ***dress (someone) down*** *or* ***dress down (someone)*** : to speak angrily to (someone) for doing something wrong ▪ He was/got *dressed down* for failing to follow orders. — see also DRESSING-DOWN

dress up [*phrasal verb*] **1 a** : to put on or wear formal clothes ▪ We *dressed up* for the awards banquet. ▪ Do I need to *dress up* for the party? **b** ***dress (someone) up*** *or* ***dress up (someone)*** : to put formal or fancy clothes on (someone) ▪ She *dressed up* the children for the wedding. **2 a** : to put on a costume ▪ We *dressed up* like/as ghosts for Halloween. **b** ***dress (someone) up*** *or* ***dress up (someone)*** : to put a costume on (someone) ▪ We *dressed* the baby *up* as a lion. **3** ***dress up (something)*** *or* ***dress (something) up*** : to make (something) more attractive, impressive, or fancy ▪ *dress up* a plain dessert with a rich chocolate sauce

[2]dress *noun, pl* **dresses**

1 [*count*] : a piece of clothing for a woman or a girl that has a top part that covers the upper body and a skirt that hangs down to cover the legs ▪ She wore *dresses* only on special occasions. ▪ She wore a short/long black *dress* to the party. ▪ Her ***wedding dress*** was decorated with lace. — see color picture on page C15; see also HOUSEDRESS, SUNDRESS

2 [*noncount*] : a particular type of clothing ▪ The guests were clothed in traditional Indian *dress*. ▪ It is wise to wear conservative *dress* to an interview.

[3]dress *adj, always used before a noun* : suitable or required for a formal event ▪ I wore *dress* pants and a nice sweater. ▪ uncomfortable *dress* shoes

dres•sage /drəˈsɑːʒ, *Brit* ˈdrɛˌsɑːʒ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : a competition in which horses perform special movements in response to signals from their riders ▪ a *dressage* horse

dress circle *noun, pl* ~ **circles** [*count*] *chiefly Brit* : the lowest section of seats above the main floor in a theater or opera house ▪ sitting in the *dress circle*

dress code *noun, pl* ~ **codes** [*count*] : a set of rules about what clothing may and may not be worn at a school, office, restaurant, etc. ▪ The school imposed a new *dress code* that forbids students from wearing jeans. ▪ a casual *dress code*

dress–down *adj, always used before a noun* — used to describe a day during which people are allowed to wear informal clothes at work or school ▪ Friday is *dress-down* day at the office. ▪ *dress-down* Friday — see also *dress down* at [1]DRESS

dressed *adj* : wearing clothes ▪ Don't come in. I'm not *dressed* yet. ▪ It's time to get out of bed and ***get dressed***. [=put on clothes] : wearing clothes of a particular type ▪ She wasn't *dressed* for such a fancy restaurant. ▪ He is usually *dressed* in black. ▪ She was *dressed* (up) as a ladybug. ▪ a ***well-dressed*** young man

dressed to kill *informal* : wearing very fancy or attractive clothes ▪ We attended the party *dressed to kill*.

dress•er /ˈdrɛsə/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

1 : a person who dresses in a particular way ▪ She is a stylish/sloppy *dresser*.

2 *US* : a piece of furniture that has drawers for storing clothes : CHEST OF DRAWERS

3 *Brit* : HUTCH 1

– see also HAIRDRESSER, WINDOW DRESSER

dress•ing /ˈdrɛsɪŋ/ *noun, pl* **-ings**

1 [*count, noncount*] : a usually seasoned mixture of liquids that is added to a salad — called also *salad dressing*; see also FRENCH DRESSING, ITALIAN DRESSING, RANCH DRESSING, RUSSIAN DRESSING, THOUSAND ISLAND DRESSING

2 *US* : STUFFING 2 [*noncount*] We had turkey with *dressing* and potatoes for dinner. [*count*] bread *dressings*

3 [*count*] : special material that is used to cover a wound ▪ The nurse cleaned the cut and applied a *dressing*.

4 [*noncount*] : the act or process of putting on clothes ▪ After breakfast, there will still be enough time for bathing and *dressing*. — see also CROSS-DRESSING, WINDOW DRESSING

dres•sing–down /ˌdrɛsɪŋˈdaʊn/ *noun* [*singular*] : the act of speaking angrily to someone about something done wrong ▪ He received a furious *dressing-down* from his boss in front of his colleagues. — see also *dress down* at [1]DRESS

dressing gown *noun, pl* ~ **gowns** [*count*] : a loose piece of clothing that is worn indoors while relaxing, getting ready for bed, etc. ✧ *Dressing gown* is more common in British English than in U.S. English. In U.S. English, *robe* and *bathrobe* are more commonly used.

dressing room *noun, pl* ~ **rooms** [*count*]

1 : a room where performers, actors, etc., can change their clothes ▪ He waited in his *dressing room* until it was time for him to appear on stage.

2 *US* : FITTING ROOM

dressing table *noun, pl* ~ **tables** [*count*] : a table often with drawers and a mirror in front of which you sit while dressing, putting on makeup, etc.

dress•mak•er /ˈdrɛsˌmeɪkɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a person who makes dresses and other clothes as a job

– **dress•mak•ing** /ˈdrɛsˌmeɪkɪŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*]

dress rehearsal *noun, pl* ~ **-als** [*count*] : the final practice of a play that is done with all the costumes, scenery, etc., that will be used in the first real performance before an audience — often used figuratively ▪ The local election is a *dress rehearsal* for the national election that will take place later this year.

dress shirt *noun, pl* ~ **shirts** [*count*]

1 *US* : a man's shirt that is usually worn with a necktie — see color picture on page C14

2 : a man's formal white shirt that is worn with a bow tie

dress uniform *noun, pl* ~ **-forms** [*count*] : a military uniform that is worn at formal events

dressy /ˈdrɛsi/ *adj* **dress•i•er; -est**

1 : suitable for formal events ▪ Those shoes are so *dressy*, I rarely wear them. ▪ She wore an outfit that was much too *dressy* for the occasion.

2 : requiring fancy or formal clothes ▪ a *dressy* affair/restaurant

3 : liking to wear fancy or formal clothes ▪ a *dressy* chap

drew *past tense of* [1]DRAW

[1]drib•ble /ˈdrɪbəl/ *verb* **drib•bles; drib•bled; drib•bling**

1 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* **a** [*no obj*] : to fall or flow in small drops ▪ Coffee *dribbled* [=*trickled*] down the side of the mug. ▪ Juice *dribbled* down his chin. **b** [+ *obj*] : to let (a liquid) fall in small drops ▪ She accidentally *dribbled* wine onto the rug. ▪ *Dribble* olive oil over the warm bread before serving.

2 [*no obj*] : to let saliva or another liquid drip or trickle from your mouth ▪ The baby *dribbled* [=*drooled*] down the back of her dad's shirt.

3 : to move a ball or puck forward by tapping, bouncing, or kicking it [*no obj*] She *dribbled* across the basketball court. [+ *obj*] He skillfully *dribbled* the soccer ball towards the goal.

[2]dribble *noun, pl* **dribbles** [*count*]

1 : a small flow of liquid ▪ He wiped a *dribble of* juice from the corner of the baby's mouth. ▪ *dribbles* of blood

2 : an act of moving a ball or puck forward by tapping, bouncing, or kicking it ▪ She gave the ball a *dribble* before passing it. — see also DOUBLE DRIBBLE

dribs /ˈdrɪbz/ *noun*

dribs and drabs *informal* : small amounts that come or happen over a period of time ▪ They received donations ***in dribs and drabs***.

dried *adj* — used to describe foods and plants that have had

all their liquid removed so that they will last for a long time ▪ *dried* beans/mushrooms/pasta ▪ *dried* milk/fish ▪ a mixture of nuts and *dried* fruit ▪ an arrangement of *dried* flowers ▪ sun-*dried* tomatoes

drier *variant spelling of* DRYER

[1]drift /ˈdrɪft/ *noun, pl* **drifts**

1 [*singular*] : a slow and gradual movement or change from one place, condition, etc., to another ▪ the slow *drift* of the clouds ▪ As she got older, you could observe a *drift* in her writing towards more serious subjects. ▪ the government's *drift* towards a centralization of power ▪ a ***population drift*** [=a gradual movement of people that lowers the population in one area and increases it in another] — see also CONTINENTAL DRIFT

2 [*count*] : a large pile of snow or sand that has been blown by the wind ▪ We sped over the *drifts* [=*snowdrifts*] on our skis.

3 [*singular*] *informal* : the general or basic meaning of something said or written ▪ I don't ***get your drift***. [=I don't understand what you're saying] ▪ I won't tell you his name, but he's someone you know very well, if you ***catch my drift***. [=if you understand what I'm suggesting]

4 [*noncount*] : movement of an airplane or a ship in a direction different from the one desired because of air or water currents

[2]drift *verb* **drifts**; **drift•ed**; **drift•ing** [*no obj*]

1 : to move slowly on water, wind, etc. ▪ The boat slowly *drifted* out to sea. ▪ The clouds *drifted* across the sky.

2 *of snow or sand* : to form a pile by being blown by the wind : to form a drift ▪ The snow *drifted* against the side of the house. ▪ *Drifting* snow covered most of the car.

3 a : to move smoothly or easily in a way that is not planned or guided ▪ The party guests *drifted* from room to room, eating and mingling. ▪ Her eyes *drifted* across the crowd. ▪ The conversation *drifted* from topic to topic. ▪ My thoughts *drifted* back to the time when we first met. **b** : to behave or live in a way that is not guided by a definite purpose or plan ▪ After he left the army he just *drifted* for a few years. ▪ She *drifted* from job to job. ▪ He has always ***drifted through life*** without a care. — see also DRIFTER

4 : to change slowly from one state or condition to another ▪ The patient *drifted* in and out of consciousness all day.

drift apart [*phrasal verb*] : to stop having a close relationship ▪ They used to be great friends, but they've gradually *drifted apart* over the years.

drift off [*phrasal verb*] *informal* : to fall asleep ▪ She *drifted off* while I was still talking. ▪ He gradually ***drifted off to sleep***.

drift•er /ˈdrɪftɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a person who moves from one place or job to another without a purpose or plan ▪ He was a *drifter* who hitchhiked from state to state.

drift net *noun, pl* ~ **nets** [*count*] : a large fishing net that floats in the water or is pulled behind a boat

drift•wood /ˈdrɪftˌwʊd/ *noun* [*noncount*] : wood that is floating in water or carried to the shore by water

[1]drill /ˈdrɪl/ *noun, pl* **drills**

1 [*count*] : a tool used for making holes in hard substances ▪ an electric/power *drill* ▪ the dentist's *drill* — see picture at CARPENTRY; see also PNEUMATIC DRILL

2 a : an exercise done to practice military skills or procedures [*count*] During basic training, the recruits spent hours a day doing *drills*. ▪ a ***drill sergeant*** [=a sergeant who trains new soldiers] [*noncount*] (*chiefly Brit*) ▪ soldiers doing *drill* **b** : a physical or mental activity that is done repeatedly in order to learn something, become more skillful, etc. [*count*] The students do vocabulary/multiplication *drills* every Monday. ▪ The players are doing their *drills*. [*noncount*] The students were taught by *drill*. — see also FIRE DRILL

know the drill *informal* : to know how something is done : to be familiar with a regular process, procedure, etc. ▪ You don't have to tell us what to do. We all *know the drill* by now.

– compare [3]DRILL, [5]DRILL

[2]drill *verb* **drills**; **drilled**; **drill•ing**

1 : to make a hole in something with a drill [+ *obj*] He *drilled* a hole in the back of the cabinet. ▪ The dentist *drilled* the tooth. [*no obj*] They are planning to *drill* for oil here.

2 [+ *obj*] **a** : to teach or train (someone) by repeating a lesson or exercise again and again ▪ We *drilled* the children on their multiplication tables. ▪ The players were *drilled* in practice. **b** : to train (soldiers) by making them practice military procedures and exercises ▪ The commander *drilled* the troops.

3 [+ *obj*] *US, sports, informal* : to hit (someone or something) very hard ▪ He *drilled* a single to right field. ▪ The quarterback got *drilled*.

drill into [*phrasal verb*] ***drill (something) into (someone)*** : to force (something) to be learned very well by (someone) by repeating it again and again ▪ Our teacher *drilled* the lesson *into* our heads. ▪ The importance of saying "please" and "thank you" was *drilled into* us as children.

– compare [4]DRILL

– **drill•er** *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] ▪ an oil *driller*

[3]drill *noun, pl* **drills** [*count*]

1 : a row of seeds planted by a special machine

2 : a special machine that plants seeds in rows

– compare [1]DRILL, [5]DRILL

[4]drill *verb* **drills**; **drilled**; **drilling** [+ *obj*] : to plant (seeds) in a row with a special machine — compare [2]DRILL

[5]drill *noun* [*noncount*] : a type of strong cotton cloth — compare [1]DRILL, [3]DRILL

drily *variant spelling of* DRYLY

[1]drink /ˈdrɪŋk/ *verb* **drinks**; **drank** /ˈdræŋk/; **drunk** /ˈdrʌŋk/; **drink•ing**

1 : to take a liquid into your mouth and swallow it [*no obj*] The baby still *drinks* from a bottle. ▪ What would you like to *drink*? [+ *obj*] We *drank* orange juice with breakfast. ▪ I *drink* lots of water when I'm hiking.

2 a [*no obj*] : to drink alcohol ▪ She *drank* too much last night and woke up sick this morning. ▪ I don't *drink*. [=I never drink alcohol] ▪ It's not safe to ***drink and drive***. ✧ Someone who ***drinks like a fish*** regularly drinks too much alcohol. ▪ When he was younger he used to *drink like a fish*. **b** [+ *obj*] : to put (yourself) into a specified state by drinking alcohol ▪ She *drank* herself into a stupor. ▪ He nearly *drank* himself to death. — see also *drink someone under the table* at [1]TABLE

drink in [*phrasal verb*] ***drink in (something)*** *or* ***drink (something) in*** : to stop and look at or listen to something in order to enjoy it fully ▪ The view is so beautiful. Let's just take a minute to *drink* it all *in*.

drink to [*phrasal verb*] ***drink to (someone or something)*** : to speak words that honor or express good wishes for (someone or something) and then take a drink : to make a toast to (someone) ▪ We *drank to* their 30th anniversary. = We ***drank a toast to*** their 30th anniversary. ▪ We ***drank to their health***. ✧ ***I'll drink to that!*** means that you agree completely with something that someone has said. ▪ "It will be the best vacation of our lives." "*I'll drink to that*!"

drink up [*phrasal verb*] ***drink up*** *or* ***drink up (something)*** *or* ***drink (something) up*** : to drink all of (something) ▪ They *drank up* (all) the orange juice. ▪ Here's a glass of the vineyard's latest wine. *Drink up*!

– **drinking** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ *Drinking* is not allowed in the park. [=you are not allowed to drink alcohol in the park] ▪ a night of heavy *drinking* — often used before another noun ▪ a *drinking* buddy/partner ▪ (*US*) She has a ***drinking problem***. [=(*Brit*) *drink problem*; she regularly drinks too much alcohol] ▪ The ***drinking age*** [=the age at which a person can legally buy and drink alcohol] in the U.S. is 21.

[2]drink *noun, pl* **drinks**

1 : a liquid that you can drink : BEVERAGE [*count*] We serve coffee, tea, and other hot *drinks*. [*noncount*] Food and *drink* will be provided. — see also SOFT DRINK

2 a [*count*] : an alcoholic beverage ▪ They went to the bar for a few *drinks*. ▪ Can I get you another *drink*? ▪ He poured himself a ***stiff drink***. [=a strong alcoholic drink] **b** [*noncount*] : the habit or practice of drinking a lot of alcohol ▪ It was during this period that she ***took to drink***. [=began drinking lots of alcohol] ▪ The stress of the job ***drove him to drink***. [=caused him to drink lots of alcohol] ▪ (*Brit*) She has a ***drink problem***. [=(*US*) *drinking problem*; she regularly drinks too much alcohol] — see also DEMON DRINK, MIXED DRINK

3 [*singular*] : an act of drinking ▪ He took a long *drink* from his glass.

4 [*count*] : an amount of liquid for drinking ▪ Give the dog a *drink* of water.

the drink *old-fashioned* : an area of water (such as a lake or pond) ▪ The ball rolled down the hill and into *the drink*.

drink•able /ˈdrɪŋkəbəl/ *adj*

1 : able to be drunk ▪ They boiled the water to make it *drinkable*. [=safe for drinking] ▪ This coffee is so hot it's not *drinkable*.

2 [*more* ~; *most* ~] : having a pleasant taste ▪ a very *drinkable* wine

drink–driver *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *Brit* : DRUNK DRIVER

drink–driv•ing /ˈdrɪŋkˈdraɪvɪŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*] *Brit* : DRUNK DRIVING

drink•er /ˈdrɪŋkɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]
1 : a person who drinks alcohol especially in large amounts • He's a heavy/moderate *drinker*. • I'm not much of a *drinker*. • Most of his friends are *drinkers*.
2 : a person who drinks a particular beverage • She's a big beer/wine/coffee *drinker*. [=she drinks a lot of beer/wine/coffee]

drinking fountain *noun, pl* ~ **-tains** [*count*] : a device in a public place that produces a stream of water for people to drink from — called also (*chiefly US*) *water fountain*

drinking water *noun* [*noncount*] : water that is clean enough for people to drink • Pollution is seeping into our *drinking water*.

drinks party *noun, pl* ~ **ties** [*count*] *Brit* : COCKTAIL PARTY

[1]drip /ˈdrɪp/ *verb* **drips**; **dripped**; **drip•ping**
1 [*no obj*] : to fall in drops • Water *dripped* from a leak in the ceiling. • Blood *dripped* down his leg from the cut. • Hot wax *dripped* onto my fingers.
2 : to let drops of (a liquid) fall [+ *obj*] The pine trees *dripped* sap onto the cars. • The kids *dripped* water all over the house. [*no obj*] The faucet is *dripping*. [=water is dripping from the faucet] • a *dripping* faucet — often + *with* • His face was *dripping with* sweat. [=sweat was dripping from his face] • The toast was *dripping with* butter. ✧ If you are ***dripping wet*** you are so wet that drops of water are falling off you. • The kids were *dripping wet*.
3 [*no obj*] : to have or show a large amount of something — usually + *with* • Her voice *dripped with* contempt/charm. • She was *dripping with* diamonds. [=she was wearing a lot of diamonds]

[2]drip *noun, pl* **drips**
1 a [*count*] : a drop of liquid that falls from something • *Drips* of water fell from a leak in the ceiling. **b** [*singular*] : the sound of liquid falling in drops • We heard the *drip* of the rain. • the steady *drip, drip, drip* of the faucet **c** [*singular*] : the act or action of falling in drops • Water fell from the ceiling in a steady/slow *drip*.
2 [*count*] *medical* : a device used in hospitals to pass fluid slowly through a tube into a patient's blood • The doctor put the patient on a morphine *drip* to manage the pain.
3 [*count*] *informal* + *old-fashioned* : a dull and often weak person • Don't invite that *drip* to your party!

[1]drip–dry /ˈdrɪpˌdraɪ/ *verb* **-dries**; **-dried**; **-dry•ing** : to dry wet clothing by hanging it so that water drips from it [*no obj*] I washed the shirt and hung it on the line to *drip-dry*. [+ *obj*] I *drip-dried* the shirt.

[2]drip–dry *adj* : able to dry with few or no wrinkles when hung up while wet • a *drip-dry* shirt

drip•ping /ˈdrɪpɪŋ/ *noun, pl* **-pings** : the fat and juices that come out of meat during cooking [*plural*] (*US*) • He cooked a turkey and made gravy from the *drippings*. [*noncount*] (*Brit*) • Pour the *dripping* from the pan.

[1]drive /ˈdraɪv/ *verb* **drives**; **drove** /ˈdroʊv/; **driv•en** /ˈdrɪvən/; **driv•ing**
1 a : to direct the movement of (a car, truck, bus, etc.) [+ *obj*] He *drove* the car down a bumpy road. • She *drives* a taxi. [=her job is driving a taxi] [*no obj*] Do you want to *drive* or should I? • He is learning to *drive*. **b** *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [*no obj*] *of a car, truck, etc.* : to move in a specified manner or direction • The car stopped and then *drove* off. • A car *drove* by us slowly. • The bus slowly *drove* away. **c** : to travel in a car [*no obj*] We *drove* all night and arrived at dawn. • Are you *driving* or flying to Canada? [=will you travel to Canada by car or airplane?] • We *drove* (for) eight hours yesterday. • We *drove* 160 miles to get here. • I *drive* on/along this route every day. [+ *obj*] I *drive* this route every day. **d** [+ *obj*] : to take (someone or something) to a place in a car, truck, etc. • I *drove* her to the train station this morning. • I had to *drive* myself to the hospital. • Her mom *drove* us home. **e** [+ *obj*] : to own and use (a vehicle of a specified kind) • He *drives* a pickup/motorcycle. • She *drives* a Ford.
2 [+ *obj*] : to move (people or animals) to or from a place by using force • Cowboys *drove* the herds across the prairie. • They *drove* the invaders back across the border. • Thousands of people have been *driven* from their homes. [=have been forced to leave their homes]
3 [+ *obj*] : to push (something) with force • *drive* a nail with a hammer — often + *into* • He *drove* a nail *into* the wall. • She *drove* the sword *into* her enemy's side.
4 [+ *obj*] : to make (a machine or vehicle) work or move : to provide power for (something) • Electricity *drives* the machinery. • a steam-*driven* turbine [=a turbine that gets its power from steam] — often used figuratively • What *drives* the economy? • a market-*driven* industry
5 [+ *obj*] **a** : to cause (someone) to behave in a particular way • They were *driven* [=*motivated*] by hunger to steal. • Poverty *drove* them to a life of crime. • Ambition *drove* her to succeed. **b** : to force (someone) to work very hard • The sergeant *drove* the recruits. • The team was ***driven hard*** by the coach. • He's been ***driving himself*** too hard. [=he's been working too hard]
6 [+ *obj*] : to bring (someone) into a particular condition • That noise is *driving* me insane/crazy. • The new store *drove* him out of business. [=caused him to go out of business] • Her perfume ***drives me wild*** [=gets me sexually excited]
7 [+ *obj*] : to cause (a price, number, etc.) to increase or decrease — + *up* or *down* • The government report *drove* stock prices *up*. • An increase in investments is *driving down* interest rates.
8 [*no obj*] *sports* : to move toward or through something with a lot of force or speed • He took a pass and *drove* to/toward the basket/net. • The running back *drove* through the line of scrimmage.
9 [+ *obj*] *sports* : to hit or kick (a ball or puck) with a lot of force or speed • She *drove* the (golf) ball down the fairway. • He *drove* the puck into the net. — see also DRIVING RANGE
10 [*no obj*] *of rain, wind, etc.* : to fall or blow with great force • The rain *drove* against the windows. — see also DRIVING

drive a hard bargain see [1]BARGAIN

drive at [*phrasal verb*] ***drive at (something)*** : to attempt to say or do (something) — usually used as *(be) driving at* • I have no idea what he *was driving at*. • I think I see what you're *driving at*.

drive away [*phrasal verb*] ***drive (someone) away*** *or* ***drive away (someone)*** : to cause or force (someone) to leave especially by making a situation unpleasant or unattractive • The store's high prices are *driving away* customers.

drive a wedge between see [1]WEDGE

drive in [*phrasal verb*] ***drive (someone or something) in*** *or* ***drive in (someone or something)*** *baseball* : to cause (a run or runner) to score • He *drove in* another run. • The hit *drove* him *in* for a 5–4 lead.

drive off [*phrasal verb*] ***drive (someone or something) off*** *or* ***drive off (someone or something)*** : to cause or force (someone or something) to leave • They *drove off* the invaders.

drive out [*phrasal verb*] ***drive (someone or something) out*** *or* ***drive out (someone or something)*** : to cause or force (someone or something) to leave • They *drove out* the invaders. • The family was *driven out* of the neighborhood by rising real estate prices.

drive (someone) up a/the wall see [1]WALL

drive your point home see [2]HOME

[2]drive *noun, pl* **drives**
1 [*count*] : a journey in a car • It's a two-hour *drive* to the beach. • Her house is an hour's *drive* east of Los Angeles. • We took a pleasant *drive* in the country. • Would you like to ***go for a drive***? — see also TEST DRIVE
2 [*count*] : a hard area or small road outside of a house where cars can be parked : DRIVEWAY • A white car was parked in the *drive*.
3 — used in the name of some public roads • Morningside *Drive* • They live at 156 Woodland *Drive*. — abbr. *Dr*.
4 [*count*] : an effort made by a group of people to achieve a goal, to collect money, etc. • a fund-raising *drive* • The school holds a canned food *drive* every winter. • a membership *drive* [=an effort to get more people to join a group, club, etc.]
5 : a strong natural need or desire [*count*] The need for food and water are basic *drives* for all living things. [*noncount*] ***Sex drive*** [=the desire to have sex] generally decreases as you get older.
6 [*noncount*] : a strong desire for success • She is an ambitious young woman, full of *drive* and determination. — see also DRIVEN
7 [*count*] : a device in a computer that can read information off and copy information onto disks or tape • Insert the disk into the floppy *drive*. • a CD-ROM *drive* — see also DISK DRIVE, HARD DRIVE
8 [*noncount*] **a** : the way power from an engine controls and directs the movement of a vehicle • The car has front-wheel/rear-wheel *drive*. — see also FOUR-WHEEL DRIVE **b**

chiefly US : a condition in which the gears of a vehicle are working in a way that allows the vehicle to move forward ▪ He ***put the car in/into drive*** and pulled onto the street.

9 [*count*] **a** *sports* : a ball, puck, etc., that is hit very hard ▪ He hit a hard/long *drive* down the left-field line. — see also LINE DRIVE **b** *golf* : a long shot that is hit from a tee ▪ She hit her *drive* into the rough.

10 [*count*] : a long or forceful military attack on an enemy ▪ an armored *drive* into enemy territory

11 [*count*] *American football* : a series of plays that move the ball down the field toward the opponent's end zone ▪ They scored a touchdown following a ten-play *drive*.

12 [*count*] : an act of leading cattle or sheep over land and keeping them in a group ▪ a cattle *drive*

drive–by /ˈdraɪvˈbaɪ/ *adj, always used before a noun* : done from a moving vehicle ▪ a ***drive-by shooting/killing***

– **drive–by** /ˈdraɪvˌbaɪ/ *noun, pl* **-bys** [*count*] ▪ They were both shot in a *drive-by*. [=a drive-by shooting]

drive–in /ˈdraɪvˌɪn/ *noun, pl* **-ins** [*count*]

1 : a place where people can watch movies outdoors while sitting in their cars — called also *drive-in theater*

2 : a restaurant at which people are served in their cars — called also *drive-in restaurant*

[1]driv•el /ˈdrɪvəl/ *noun* [*noncount*] : foolish writing or speech ▪ I'm not going to waste my time reading this *drivel*. [=*nonsense*]

[2]drivel *verb* **-els**; *US* **-eled** *or Brit* **-elled**; *US* **-el•ing** *or Brit* **-el•ling** [*no obj*] *informal* : to talk in a very foolish or silly way ▪ What is he *driveling* about now?

– **driveling** (*US*) *or Brit* **drivelling** *adj* ▪ a *driveling* idiot

[1]driven *past participle of* [1]DRIVE

[2]driven *adj* : very determined to succeed ▪ They are *driven*, successful people.

driv•er /ˈdraɪvɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

1 a : a person who drives a car, truck, etc. ▪ Who was the *driver* at the time of the accident? ▪ He's a good/careful/fast/bad *driver*. ▪ The front door on the ***driver's side*** [=the side of the car where the driver sits] is scratched. — see also BACKSEAT DRIVER **b** : a person whose job is to drive a vehicle (such as a taxi, truck, or bus) ▪ We told the taxi *driver* to take us to the library. ▪ He likes to sit at the front of the bus, near the *driver*. ▪ an ambulance/truck *driver*

2 *technical* : a piece of computer software that controls a device (such as a mouse or printer) that is attached to the computer ▪ There's a problem with the printer's *driver*.

3 *golf* : a club that is used for hitting long shots off a tee

in the driver's seat : in a position in which you are able to control what happens ▪ When his boss went on vacation, he suddenly found himself *in the driver's seat*.

– see also PILE DRIVER

driver's license *noun, pl* ~ **-censes** [*count*] *US* : an official document or card which shows that you have the legal right to drive a vehicle — called also (*Brit*) *driving licence*

drive•shaft /ˈdraɪvˌʃæft, *Brit* ˈdraɪvˌʃɑːft/ *noun, pl* **-shafts** [*count*] *technical* : a part of a vehicle that carries power from the gears to the wheels

drive–through *also* **drive–thru** /ˈdraɪvˌθruː/ *noun, pl* **-throughs** *also* **-thrus** [*count*] : a business (such as a bank or restaurant) that is designed so that customers can be served while remaining in their cars; *also, US* : the window from which people are served ▪ I ordered a salad and fries at the *drive-through*.

– **drive–through** *also* **drive–thru** /ˈdraɪvˌθruː/ *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ a *drive-through* restaurant ▪ (*US*) the *drive-through* window

drive time *noun* [*noncount*] *chiefly US* : the time when people are driving to or from work and are listening to the radio in their cars ▪ Her show airs during the morning *drive time*. ▪ a *drive-time* radio show

drive–up /ˈdraɪvˌʌp/ *adj, always used before a noun, US* : designed to allow people to remain in their cars while being served ▪ a bank with a ***drive-up window***

drive•way /ˈdraɪvˌweɪ/ *noun, pl* **-ways** [*count*] : a short private road from a street to a house or other building where cars can usually be parked ▪ A long *driveway* led to the mansion. ▪ We shoveled the *driveway* [=*drive*] after the snowstorm. — see picture at HOUSE

[1]driving *adj, always used before a noun*

1 : falling or blowing with great force and speed ▪ a hard *driving* rain/wind

2 — used in the phrase ***driving force*** to describe the person or thing that causes or controls something ▪ He has been the *driving force* behind these changes. [=he has been the person who has caused these changes to happen] ▪ She believes that greed is the *driving force* behind our economy.

– see also HARD-DRIVING

[2]driving *noun* [*noncount*]

1 : the act of operating a vehicle ▪ I enjoy *driving* in good weather. ▪ She doesn't like ***night driving***. [=driving at night] ▪ (*US*) He was arrested for ***driving under the influence***. = He was arrested for ***driving while intoxicated***. [=for driving when he was drunk] — often used before another noun ▪ a *driving* school ▪ He failed his *driving* test.

2 : the way someone operates a vehicle ▪ I don't trust her *driving* and would rather take my own car. ▪ He got pulled over for ***reckless driving***. — see also DRUNK DRIVING, *driving to endanger* at ENDANGER

driving licence *noun, pl* ~ **-cences** [*count*] *Brit* : DRIVER'S LICENSE

driving range *noun, pl* ~ **ranges** [*count*] : a place where people can practice hitting golf balls

[1]driz•zle /ˈdrɪzəl/ *verb* **driz•zles**; **driz•zled**; **driz•zling**

1 [*no obj*] : to rain in very small drops ▪ It was beginning to *drizzle*, so she pulled on her hood.

2 [+ *obj*] : to pour a small amount of liquid onto or over something ▪ She *drizzled* syrup on her pancakes. = She *drizzled* her pancakes with syrup. ▪ The vegetables were *drizzled* with olive oil.

[2]drizzle *noun* [*singular*] : rain that falls lightly in very small drops ▪ Yes, it's raining, but it's only a *drizzle*.

– **driz•zly** /ˈdrɪzəli/ *adj* **driz•li•er**; **-est** ▪ It was a *drizzly*, gray weekend.

droll /ˈdroʊl/ *adj* **droll•er**; **-est** : having an odd and amusing quality ▪ a *droll* little man with a peculiar sense of humor ▪ a book of *droll* stories

drom•e•dary /ˈdrɑːməˌderi, *Brit* ˈdrɒmədri/ *noun, pl* **-dar•ies** [*count*] : a camel of western Asia and northern Africa that has one hump on its back

[1]drone /ˈdroʊn/ *noun, pl* **drones** [*count*] : a deep continuous sound : HUM — usually singular ▪ the endless *drone* of washing machines at the laundry ▪ the *drone* of passing traffic — compare [3]DRONE

[2]drone *verb* **drones**; **droned**; **dron•ing** [*no obj*] : to make a continuous low humming sound ▪ A plane *droned* overhead. ▪ We could hear wasps *droning* in the garden.

drone on [*phrasal verb*] *informal* : to speak for a long time in a dull voice without saying anything interesting ▪ She had trouble keeping awake as he *droned on* about himself.

[3]drone *noun, pl* **drones** [*count*]

1 : a type of male bee that does not gather honey

2 *chiefly US, informal* : a person who does work that is boring and not very important ▪ one of many office *drones*

– compare [1]DRONE

[1]drool /ˈdruːl/ *verb* **drools**; **drooled**; **drool•ing** [*no obj*]

1 : to let saliva flow out from the mouth ▪ a *drooling* baby

2 : to show admiration or desire for something in an exaggerated way — usually + *over* ▪ Everyone was *drooling over* his new car.

[2]drool *noun* [*noncount*] *chiefly US* : saliva that drips from the mouth ▪ He wiped the *drool* from the baby's face.

droop /ˈdruːp/ *verb* **droops**; **drooped**; **droop•ing** [*no obj*]

1 : to sink, bend, or hang down ▪ The flowers were *drooping* in the hot sun. ▪ Her eyelids *drooped* as she grew tired. ▪ The tree's branches *drooped* under the weight of the snow.

2 : to become sad or weak ▪ His spirits *drooped* when he didn't get the job.

– **droop** *noun* [*singular*] ▪ the sad *droop* of the dog's tail

– **droopy** /ˈdruːpi/ *adj* **droop•i•er**; **-est** ▪ a *droopy* mustache

[1]drop /ˈdrɑːp/ *noun, pl* **drops**

1 [*count*] : a very small amount of liquid that falls in a rounded shape ▪ He squeezed the bottle until a few *drops* came out. ▪ She knew rain was coming when she felt a *drop* [=*raindrop*] land on her arm. — often + *of* ▪ *Drops of* water fell from the leaky faucet. ▪ a *drop of* blood — see also DEWDROP, RAINDROP, TEARDROP

2 [*count*] *informal* : a small amount of a drink — usually singular ▪ I didn't have a *drop* of your orange juice. ▪ I'd just like a *drop* of brandy, please. ▪ He used to have a drinking problem but he ***hasn't touched a drop*** [=hasn't drunk any alcohol] in years.

3 [*singular*] : a small amount of something (such as a quality) ▪ She doesn't have a single *drop* of selfishness in her. ▪ The poet wrings the last *drop* of meaning from every word.

4 *drops* [*plural*] : liquid medicine that is measured in drops and put into your eyes, ears, or nose ▪ The doctor prescribed daily *drops* for the child's ears. ▪ ***eye/ear drops***

5 [*count*] : a usually small, round piece of candy with a particular flavor ▪ We sucked on lemon *drops*. — see also COUGH DROP, GUMDROP

6 [*count*] **a :** the distance from a higher to a lower level — usually singular ▪ It is a 50-foot *drop* from the cliff to the ground below. **b :** an area that goes downward suddenly ▪ A steep *drop* in the river forms a waterfall.

7 [*count*] : a decrease in amount or quality — usually singular ▪ His income took a sudden *drop*. — often + *in* ▪ He had a sudden *drop in* income. ▪ The patient experienced a sharp *drop in* blood pressure. ▪ a *drop* [=*decline*] *in* prices/sales ▪ a four percent *drop in* body weight

8 [*count*] *informal* **a :** the act of taking something (such as something secret or illegal) to a place and leaving it there ▪ He made the *drop*. **b :** a place where something is taken to and left to be picked up ▪ I left the package at the *drop*. — see also AIRDROP, MAIL DROP

9 [*count*] *American football* : a move back from the line of scrimmage — usually singular ▪ The quarterback made a quick three-step *drop*.

a drop in the bucket (*US*) *or Brit* ***a drop in the ocean*** *informal* : an amount that is so small that it does not make an important difference or have much effect ▪ They need to raise thousands of dollars for this project, so our 20-dollar donation is just *a drop in the bucket*.

at the drop of a hat : very quickly and immediately ▪ He says he's ready to help us *at the drop of a hat*. ▪ She loses her temper *at the drop of a hat*.

[2]drop *verb* drops; dropped; drop•ping

1 a [+ *obj*] : to let (something) fall ▪ Be careful not to *drop* the chair on your foot. ▪ She *dropped* the apple core into the trash can. ▪ They *dropped* bombs on the city. ▪ He *dropped* the vase and it shattered into pieces. ▪ The player *dropped* the ball. ▪ The trees *drop* their needles in the winter. [=the needles fall off the trees in the winter] **b** [*no obj*] : to fall ▪ The pen rolled to the edge of the table and *dropped* to the floor. ▪ The book *dropped* from my hand. ▪ The ball *dropped* between the right and center fielders.

2 [*no obj*] **a :** to lie down or fall down suddenly ▪ He *dropped* (down) to the floor and hid under the bed. **b :** to lie down or become unconscious because you are sick or exhausted : COLLAPSE ▪ She was so tired she felt she would *drop*. ▪ He worked until he *dropped*. ▪ (*informal*) We're going to the mall to ***shop till we drop***.

3 [*no obj*] : to go down suddenly and form a steep slope ▪ The road *drops* into the valley. ▪ The cliff *drops* almost vertically.

4 a [*no obj*] : to change to a lower level, amount, position, etc. ▪ The temperature *dropped* (to 50 degrees). ▪ His voice *dropped* [=became quieter] as he told us the secret. ▪ Increased competition has caused prices to *drop*. [=*decline, go down*] ▪ Production has *dropped*. [=*decreased*] ▪ The team has *dropped* [=*fallen*] to third place. ▪ He *dropped* [=*fell*] behind the other runners when he hurt his ankle. **b** [+ *obj*] : to cause (something) to lessen or decrease in level or amount ▪ He *dropped* [=*lowered*] his voice. ▪ She *dropped* [=*reduced*] her speed when she saw the patrol car.

5 [+ *obj*] : to send (someone) a letter, note, etc. ▪ I'll *drop* you an e-mail when I know my schedule. ▪ ***Drop me a line*** [=write me a letter] sometime.

6 a [+ *obj*] : to stop talking or thinking about (something) ▪ You can *drop* that idea right now. ▪ Let's just ***drop the subject***. ▪ Just ***drop it***. I don't want to talk about it any more. **b** [*no obj*] : to stop being talked about ▪ Please let the matter *drop*. ▪ Once he starts talking about a subject he just won't ***let it drop***.

7 [+ *obj*] : to stop doing or continuing with (something) ▪ I'm going to *drop* my calculus class and take a biology course instead. ▪ New evidence was found and the case was *dropped*. ▪ The prosecutors ***dropped the charges*** against her. ▪ I ***dropped everything*** [=stopped what I was doing] and ran to the window to see what was going on.

8 [+ *obj*] : to not include (someone or something) ▪ You should *drop* [=*cut, omit*] this sentence from your essay. ▪ The newspaper decided to *drop* the story. ▪ He was *dropped* from the team.

9 [+ *obj*] : to suddenly end a relationship or connection with (someone) ▪ They dated for a while, but then she suddenly *dropped* him. ▪ She moved away and *dropped* her old friends.

10 [+ *obj*] : to take (someone or something) to a place and then leave ▪ She *dropped* him in front of the library. ▪ He *dropped* the package at the post office this morning. — often + *off* ▪ I *drop* the kids *off* at school in the morning. ▪ I'll *drop off* the paperwork as soon as it's all filled out.

11 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [*no obj*] : to make a brief social visit — usually + *by* or *in* or *over* ▪ His sister *dropped by* unexpectedly. ▪ They *dropped in* for a chat. ▪ *Drop over* sometime! ▪ We were in the neighborhood and thought we would ***drop in on*** you. — see also DROP-IN

12 [+ *obj*] : to say (something) in an informal or casual way ▪ He casually *dropped* the news that they are getting married. ▪ She's always ***dropping names***. [=saying the names of famous people she knows to try to impress others] ▪ She has been ***dropping hints*** that she is looking for another job.

13 [+ *obj*] *informal* : to lose (a game) ▪ They *dropped* the first game but won the next two.

14 [+ *obj*] *informal* : to spend (an amount of money) — usually + *on* ▪ She *dropped* $300 *on* a new suit.

15 [+ *obj*] *informal* : to lose (an amount of weight) ▪ Through diet and exercise, I managed to *drop* 20 pounds in a year.

16 : to move down [+ *obj*] When the teacher became angry at her, she ***dropped her eyes/head***. [=she looked down] [*no obj*] His gaze *dropped* to the floor in embarrassment.

17 [+ *obj*] *knitting* : to let (a loop of yarn) fall off a knitting needle ▪ Count the stitches on the needle to make sure you didn't *drop* one. ▪ Be careful you don't ***drop a stitch***.

18 [+ *obj*] : to not pronounce (a letter) when you speak ▪ When she spoke quickly, she *dropped* the "g" in "running."

19 [+ *obj*] *informal* : to take (a drug) by swallowing it ▪ They ***dropped acid***. [=they took LSD]

drop a brick *or* ***drop a clanger*** *Brit, informal* : to make a very bad or embarrassing mistake

drop back [*phrasal verb*] *American football* : to move straight back from the line of scrimmage ▪ The quarterback *dropped back* and threw a long pass down the field.

drop dead see [1]DEAD

drop in/into/on your lap see [1]LAP

drop off [*phrasal verb*] **1 :** to decrease in amount ▪ After the holidays, business usually *drops off*. **2 :** to fall asleep ▪ The baby tends to *drop off* after he eats. ▪ She lay down and ***dropped off to sleep***. — see also [2]DROP 10 (above)

drop out [*phrasal verb*] **1 :** to stop attending a school or university before you have completed your studies ▪ He *dropped out* after 10th grade. — often + *of* ▪ He *dropped out of* [=*quit*] college/school and began working full-time. **2 :** to stop being part of a group — usually + *of* ▪ She was the first to *drop out of* the band. **3 :** to stop being involved in regular society because you do not agree with or support its rules, customs, and values ▪ Back in the sixties he *dropped out* and lived as a hippie for several years. — see also DROPOUT

drop out of sight : to stop being seen ▪ The house *dropped out of sight* as we drove over the hill. ▪ a famous and successful actor who suddenly *dropped out of sight*

drop the ball see [1]BALL

jaw drops see [1]JAW

the bottom drop out see [1]BOTTOM

the penny drops see PENNY

you could hear a pin drop see [1]PIN

drop cloth *noun, pl* ~ **cloths** [*count*] *US* : a sheet of cloth or plastic that is used to cover the floor and furniture while you are painting a room — compare DUST SHEET

drop–dead /ˈdrɑːpˈdɛd/ *adj, informal* : very attractive or impressive ▪ a *drop-dead* evening gown

– **drop–dead** *adv* ▪ an actress who is *drop-dead* gorgeous

drop–dead date *noun, pl* ~ **dates** [*count*] *US* : a date by which something must be done or finished : a deadline that must be met ▪ They were given a *drop-dead date* of June 30 to accept or reject the contract.

drop–down menu *noun, pl* ~ **menus** [*count*] *computers* : a list of choices that appears on a computer screen when a person clicks on the menu's title ▪ To print the document, click on "print" in the "file" *drop-down menu*. — called also *drop-down list, pull-down menu*

drop goal *noun, pl* ~ **goals** [*count*] *rugby* : a goal that is made by a dropkick

drop–in /ˈdrɑːpˌɪn/ *adj, always used before a noun*

1 *of a place* : able to be visited without an appointment ▪ a *drop-in* clinic/lab/restaurant ▪ a *drop-in* medical center

2 *of a person* : visiting a place without an appointment ▪ *drop-in* customers/clients

drop•kick /ˈdrɑːpˌkɪk/ *noun, pl* **-kicks** [*count*] : a kick that

is made by dropping a ball to the ground and kicking it as it begins to bounce back up

– **drop–kick** /ˈdrɑːpˌkɪk/ *verb* **-kicks**; **-kicked**; **-kick·ing** [+ *obj*] ▪ He *drop-kicked* the ball.

drop·let /ˈdrɑːplət/ *noun, pl* **-lets** [*count*] : a very small drop of liquid ▪ *Droplets* of water collected on the windows.

drop–off /ˈdrɑːpˌɑːf/ *noun, pl* **-offs** [*count*]

1 : a very steep downward slope ▪ The *drop-off* along the trail is very steep.

2 : a very large decrease in level or amount ▪ There has been a *drop-off* in attendance this year. — see also *drop off* at ²DROP

3 : the act of taking someone or something to a place and then leaving : the act of dropping someone or something off ▪ This area is for student *drop-offs*.

drop·out /ˈdrɑːpˌaʊt/ *noun, pl* **-outs** [*count*]

1 : a person who stops going to a school, college, etc., before finishing : a person who drops out of school ▪ The program is designed for *dropouts* who wish to get high school equivalency certificates. ▪ a high school *dropout*

2 : a person who stops being involved in society because he or she does not believe in its rules, customs, and values — see also *drop out* at ²DROP

drop pass *noun, pl* ~ **passes** [*count*] *ice hockey* : a pass in which a player stops the puck and skates past it in order to leave it for another player who is close behind

dropped *adj, always used before a noun, of clothing* : made to be in a lower position on the body than is usual ▪ a dress with a *dropped* waist ▪ *dropped* shoulders

drop·per /ˈdrɑːpɚ/ *noun, pl* **-pers** [*count*] : a glass or plastic tube that is used to measure out liquids by drops ▪ He put drops in his eyes with a *dropper*. — called also *eyedropper, medicine dropper*

drop·ping /ˈdrɑːpɪŋ/ *noun, pl* **-pings** [*count*] : a piece of solid waste from an animal or bird — usually plural ▪ bird *droppings*

drop shot *noun, pl* ~ **shots** [*count*] : a softly hit shot in tennis or a similar game that falls quickly after passing over the net

dross /ˈdrɑːs/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 *technical* : unwanted material that is removed from a mineral (such as gold) to make it better

2 : something of low value or quality ▪ There is quite a lot of *dross* on TV these days. ▪ His editor has a talent for turning literary *dross* into gold.

drought /ˈdraʊt/ *noun, pl* **droughts** : a long period of time during which there is very little or no rain [*count*] The *drought* caused serious damage to crops. [*noncount*] a period of *drought* that lasted several years

¹drove /ˈdroʊv/ *noun, pl* **droves** [*count*] : a large group of people or animals that move or act together ▪ a *drove* of cattle — usually plural ▪ *droves* of students ▪ People came ***in droves*** [=many people came] to hear her sing.

²drove *past tense of* ¹DRIVE

drov·er /ˈdroʊvɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] *chiefly Brit* : a person who moves groups of animals (such as cattle or sheep) from one place to another

drown /ˈdraʊn/ *verb* **drowns**; **drowned**; **drown·ing**

1 a [*no obj*] : to die by being underwater too long and unable to breathe ▪ Four people *drowned* in the flood. ▪ She fell in the river and *drowned*. **b** [+ *obj*] : to hold (a person or animal) underwater until death occurs ▪ She claims that he tried to *drown* her. ▪ He tried to *drown* himself.

2 [+ *obj*] : to cover (something) completely with a liquid ▪ The river overflowed, *drowning* whole villages. ▪ The food was *drowned* in sauce.

3 [+ *obj*] : to cause (something or someone) not to be heard by making a loud noise ▪ The loud music *drowned* the sound of their conversation. — usually + *out* ▪ Noise from the passing airplane *drowned out* our conversation. ▪ He talked loudly to try to *drown* her *out*.

4 : to experience or be affected by too much of something : to be overwhelmed by something — usually + *in* [*no obj*] Many young people today are *drowning in* credit card debt. ▪ She was *drowning in* sadness. [+ *obj*] I'm being *drowned in* paperwork. [=I'm being overwhelmed by paperwork]

5 [+ *obj*] : to forget about (unpleasant feelings or thoughts) by getting drunk ▪ He went to the bar to ***drown his sorrows***. ▪ He was trying to ***drown his fears***. [=to get drunk so that he wouldn't be afraid]

– **drowning** *noun, pl* **-ings** [*count, noncount*]

drowse /ˈdraʊz/ *verb* **drows·es**; **drowsed**; **drows·ing** [*no obj*] : to sleep lightly or to almost be asleep ▪ She drove while I *drowsed* [=(more commonly) *dozed*] in the back seat.

drowsy /ˈdraʊzi/ *adj* **drows·i·er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : tired and ready to fall asleep ▪ I started feeling *drowsy* [=*sleepy*] and decided to take a nap.

2 : causing you to feel relaxed and ready to sleep ▪ We spent a *drowsy* afternoon by the pool.

– **drows·i·ly** /ˈdraʊzəli/ *adv* – **drows·i·ness** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ These medications may cause *drowsiness*.

drub·bing /ˈdrʌbɪŋ/ *noun, pl* **-bings** [*count*] *informal* : an occurrence in which one person or team easily beats another person or team ▪ She withdrew after her *drubbing* [=after she was badly beaten] in the New Hampshire primary. ▪ Our team ***took a drubbing***. = They ***gave us a drubbing***. [=they beat us very easily]

drudge /ˈdrʌʤ/ *noun, pl* **drudg·es** [*count*] : a person who does boring, difficult, or unpleasant work ▪ She was tired of working as an office *drudge*. — often used before another noun ▪ *drudge* work ▪ a *drudge* job

drudg·ery /ˈdrʌʤəri/ *noun* [*noncount*] : boring, difficult, or unpleasant work ▪ He hated the *drudgery* of his job.

¹drug /ˈdrʌg/ *noun, pl* **drugs** [*count*]

1 : a substance that is used as a medicine ▪ a new *drug* used to treat people with high blood pressure ▪ an experimental *drug* for the treatment of AIDS ▪ ***prescription drugs*** [=drugs that people are allowed to use only if they have a note from a doctor] ▪ a ***miracle/wonder drug*** [=a drug that is very effective] — often used before another noun ▪ *drug* treatment/therapy ▪ *drug* companies

2 : an illegal and often harmful substance (such as heroin, cocaine, LSD, or marijuana) that people take for pleasure ▪ Have you ever taken/used any illegal *drugs*? ▪ He got ***hooked on drugs*** [=he became addicted to drugs] at an early age. ▪ I don't smoke, drink, or ***do drugs***. ▪ She looks like she's ***on drugs***. [=like she uses drugs or is high on a drug] — often used before another noun ▪ intravenous *drug* users [=people who inject drugs into their veins] ▪ She died of a *drug* overdose. ▪ *drug*-treatment programs ▪ *drug* addiction/addicts/abuse — see also DESIGNER DRUG, GATEWAY DRUG

²drug *verb* **drugs**; **drugged**; **drug·ging** [+ *obj*]

1 : to give a drug to (a person or animal) in order to make that person or animal very sleepy or unconscious ▪ He looks like he's been *drugged*.

2 : to add a drug to (a food or drink) in order to make someone sleepy or unconscious ▪ Someone could have *drugged* your drink.

drug dealer *noun, pl* ~ **-ers** [*count*] : a person who sells illegal drugs

drug·gie /ˈdrʌgi/ *noun, pl* **-gies** [*count*] *informal* : a person who often uses illegal drugs

drugging *noun* [*noncount*] *chiefly US, informal* : use of illegal drugs ▪ His drinking and *drugging* will kill him one day.

drug·gist /ˈdrʌgɪst/ *noun, pl* **-gists** [*count*] *US, somewhat old-fashioned* : a person who prepares and sells medicines : PHARMACIST ▪ Your local *druggist* can fill the prescription.

drug·store /ˈdrʌgˌstoɚ/ *noun, pl* **-stores** [*count*] *US* : a store that sells medicines and various other products (such as newspapers, candy, soap, etc.)

dru·id *or* **Druid** /ˈdruːwɪd/ *noun, pl* **-ids** [*count*] : a member of a group of priests in an ancient British religion

¹drum /ˈdrʌm/ *noun, pl* **drums**

1 [*count*] : a musical instrument that is made with a thin layer of skin or plastic stretched over the end of a round frame and that is played by hitting the skin or plastic with sticks or with your hands ▪ a child beating on a *drum* ▪ We heard the rhythmic beating of *drums*. ▪ She plays the *drums*. ▪ That was Miles Davis on trumpet and Max Roach ***on drums***. [=playing the drums] — see also KETTLEDRUM, SNARE DRUM, STEEL DRUM

2 [*noncount*] : the sound that is made when something hits a surface over and over again ▪ He lay listening to the steady *drum* of the rain on the roof.

3 [*count*] **a** : a large usually metal container for liquids ▪ oil *drums* ▪ a 55-gallon *drum* **b** : a machine or part of a machine that is shaped like a cylinder ▪ the *drum* of a clothes dryer

beat/bang the drum for : to say or write things that strongly support (someone or something) ▪ They joined together to *beat the drum for* their candidate. ▪ *banging the drum for* human rights

²drum *verb* **drums**; **drummed**; **drum·ming**

1 [*no obj*] : to beat or play a drum or set of drums ▪ She *drummed* while he played the guitar.
2 : to make a sound by hitting a surface over and over again [*no obj*] Rain *drummed* [=*beat*] on the roof. ▪ Her fingers *drummed* nervously on the table. [+ *obj*] He was nervously *drumming* a pencil on the desk. ▪ She was ***drumming her fingers*** [=rapidly tapping her fingertips] on the table.
drum into [*phrasal verb*] ***drum (something) into (someone)*** : to force (something) to be learned by (someone) by repeating it over and over again ▪ Our teacher *drummed* the lesson *into* our heads. ▪ The importance of saying "please" and "thank you" was *drummed into* us as children.
drum out of [*phrasal verb*] ***drum (someone) out of (something)*** : to force (someone) to leave (a place or organization) ▪ They *drummed* her *out of* the club. ▪ He got *drummed out* of the military.
drum up [*phrasal verb*] ***drum up (something)*** *also* ***drum (something) up*** : to get or create (support, business, etc.) through hard work and a lot of effort ▪ They sent out flyers to *drum up* support for their candidate. ▪ Somehow, we need to *drum up* some new business. ▪ The company is trying to *drum up* demand for a new product.

drum•beat /'drʌmˌbi:t/ *noun, pl* **-beats** [*count*] : the sound made by beating a drum ▪ I could hear the *drumbeat* of a parade down the street. ▪ hard and fast *drumbeats* ▪ a rock-and-roll *drumbeat* — often used figuratively ▪ The constant *drumbeat* for better working conditions [=the constant effort and complaints from people who demanded better working conditions] finally made a difference. ▪ The *drumbeat* of opposition has increased in recent months. ▪ We have been subjected to a steady *drumbeat* [=*barrage*] of bad news.

drum kit *noun, pl* ~ **kits** [*count*] : a set of drums and cymbals

drum machine *noun, pl* ~ **-chines** [*count*] : an electronic device that makes sounds like the sounds of a drum

drum major *noun, pl* ~ **-jors** [*count*] : the leader of a marching band

drum majorette *noun, pl* ~ **-ettes** [*count*] : MAJORETTE

drum•mer /'drʌmə/ *noun, pl* **-mers** [*count*] : a person who plays a drum or a set of drums ▪ The band got a new *drummer*.

different drummer *US* — used in phrases like ***march to the beat of a different drummer*** to describe a person who thinks, lives, or behaves in an unusual way ▪ His strange behavior was no surprise—he had always *marched to (the beat of) a different drummer*. [=done things differently from other people] ▪ Her friends went to college, but she ***heard a different drummer*** and moved to the city to be an actor.

drum roll *noun, pl* ~ **rolls** [*count*] : a continuous sound made by a series of very quick hits on a drum especially in order to introduce an exciting public announcement, act, etc.

drum•stick /'drʌmˌstɪk/ *noun, pl* **-sticks** [*count*]
1 : the lower part of the leg of a bird (such as a chicken or turkey) that is eaten as food
2 : a stick used for playing a drum

[1]drunk *past participle of* [1]DRINK

[2]drunk /'drʌŋk/ *adj* **drunk•er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : having drunk so much alcohol that normal actions (such as talking, thinking, and moving) become difficult to do ▪ I don't like being around *drunk* people. ▪ She was so *drunk* that she could barely walk. ▪ I was *drunk* and couldn't think straight. ▪ We ***got drunk*** on wine. ▪ He was ***blind drunk***. = He was ***roaring drunk***. = (*chiefly US*) He was ***stinking drunk***. [=he was extremely drunk] ▪ (*US*) He was ***(as) drunk as a skunk***. = (*Brit*) He was ***(as) drunk as a lord***. [=he was extremely drunk]
2 : behaving in an unusual or improper way because of excitement, anger, etc. — usually + *with* ▪ He was *drunk with* power/anger/excitement. — see also PUNCH-DRUNK

[3]drunk *noun, pl* **drunks** [*count*]
1 *disapproving* : a person who is drunk or who often gets drunk ▪ the town *drunk*
2 *informal* : a period of time when someone drinks too much alcohol ▪ They went on a two-day *drunk*. [=*bender*, *binge*]

drunk•ard /'drʌŋkəd/ *noun, pl* **-ards** [*count*] *disapproving* : a person who is drunk or who often gets drunk ▪ Her father was a *drunkard*.

drunk driver *noun, pl* ~ **-ers** [*count*] *chiefly US* : a person who drives a vehicle while drunk ▪ He was killed by a *drunk driver*. — called also *drunken driver*, (*Brit*) *drink-driver*

drunk driving *noun* [*noncount*] *chiefly US* : the act of driving a vehicle while drunk ▪ He was arrested for *drunk driving*. — called also *drunken driving*, (*Brit*) *drink-driving*

drunk•en /'drʌŋkən/ *adj, always used before a noun*
1 : drunk or often becoming drunk ▪ The streets were filled with *drunken* revelers on New Year's Eve. ▪ He lives in an apartment with his *drunken* mother.
2 : caused by drinking too much alcohol ▪ He fell into a *drunken* stupor.
3 : involving people who are drunk ▪ A *drunken* brawl broke out at the bar.
– **drunk•en•ly** *adv* ▪ She staggered *drunkenly* to a chair.
– **drunk•en•ness** /'drʌŋkənnəs/ *noun* [*noncount*]

drunk tank *noun, pl* ~ **tanks** [*count*] *US, informal* : a large jail cell where drunk people who have been arrested are kept

druth•ers /'drʌðəz/ *noun* [*plural*] *US, informal* : the power or opportunity to choose ▪ ***If I had my druthers***, [=if I could choose what to do] I would travel all the time. ▪ ***Given her druthers***, she would play tennis every day.

[1]dry /'draɪ/ *adj* **dri•er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~]
1 a : having no or very little water or liquid ▪ a *dry* riverbed ▪ Mix the *dry* ingredients first, then add the milk and eggs. ▪ a cool, *dry* place ▪ Wipe the surface *dry*. [=wipe the surface until it is dry] ▪ The air is usually *dry* during the winter. [=there is very little moisture in the air] ▪ the *dry* heat of the desert ▪ We tried to ***stay/keep dry*** in the rain by standing under a tree. ▪ The stream is usually ***(as) dry as a bone*** [=completely dry] this time of year. ▪ The stream is ***bone dry***. **b** : no longer wet ▪ Are the clothes *dry* yet? ▪ The paint should be *dry* in a few hours.
2 : having no rain or little rain ▪ This has been an unusually *dry* summer. [=there has been little rain this summer] ▪ a stretch of *dry* weather ▪ a *dry* spell/season ▪ a country with a very *dry* climate ▪ This plant does well in *dry* conditions.
3 a : not having the usual or desired amount of moisture ▪ My throat is *dry*. ▪ My lips are *dry*. ▪ *dry*, itchy skin ▪ *dry* hair ▪ The medication can cause ***dry mouth***. [=a condition in which the inside of your mouth become very dry] **b** : having the moisture removed by cooking or some other process ▪ The chicken was *dry* and tasteless. ▪ *dry* [=*powdered*] milk
4 : not producing a wet substance ▪ a *dry* cough [=a cough that does not produce any phlegm] ▪ The baby stayed *dry* all night. [=the baby did not urinate all night] ▪ His eyes were *dry*. [=there were no tears in his eyes] ✧ If there is ***not a dry eye in the house/room (etc.)***, everyone in a place is emotional or is affected deeply by something. ▪ When the hero proclaimed his love for the heroine at the end of the play, there *wasn't a dry eye in the house*.
5 : no longer producing water, oil, etc. ▪ a *dry* well ▪ a *dry* oil well ▪ The well ***went/ran dry***. ▪ (*chiefly US*) They drilled for oil but the well ***came up dry***. — often used figuratively ▪ The author went through a *dry* [=*unproductive*] period and couldn't write anything. ▪ The group stayed together despite several *dry* [=*unsuccessful*] years. ▪ They went searching for clues but *came up dry*. [=*came up empty*]
6 : served or eaten without butter, jam, etc. ▪ a breakfast of *dry* toast and coffee
7 *of wine, sherry, etc.* : not sweet ▪ a very *dry* red wine ▪ *dry* sherry
8 : not interesting, exciting, or emotional ▪ The novel included several long, *dry* [=*boring*] passages. ▪ His lectures were usually very *dry*.
9 : funny or clever but expressed in a quiet or serious way ▪ He has a very *dry* sense of humor. ▪ a *dry* wit
10 a : not having or offering alcoholic beverages ▪ a *dry* party **b** : not allowing alcoholic beverages ▪ The college campus has been *dry* for 10 years. ▪ a *dry* state/county [=a state/county where alcoholic beverages cannot be sold] **c** : not drinking alcoholic beverages ▪ He's been *dry* [=*sober*] for several years now.
high and dry see [2]HIGH
home and dry see [2]HOME
keep your powder dry see [1]POWDER
milk/bleed/suck (someone or something) dry *informal* : to take or use up everything from (someone or something) ▪ He married her for her money and then *bled* her *dry*. ▪ She *milked* the system *dry*.
– **dry•ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

[2]dry *verb* **dries**; **dried**; **dry•ing**
1 a [+ *obj*] : to remove water or moisture from (something or someone) : to make (something or someone) dry ▪ I'll wash the dishes if you *dry* them. ▪ Make sure you *dry* your hands. ▪ He *dried* himself with the towel. ▪ Stop crying and *dry* your

D

eyes. **b** [*no obj*] : to make plates, dishes, pots, etc., dry by rubbing them with a towel ▪ I'll wash and you *dry*, okay? **2** [*no obj*] : to become dry ▪ Your shirt is *drying* on the clothesline. ▪ The paint *dried* overnight. — see also AIR-DRY, DRIP-DRY, FREEZE-DRY

dry off [*phrasal verb*] **1 a** : to become dry ▪ My umbrella's *drying off* in the hall. **b** : to make your body dry ▪ We got out of the pool and *dried off*. **2 *dry off (someone or something)* or *dry (someone or something) off*** : to make (someone or something) dry ▪ He *dried off* the bench and sat down. ▪ *Dry* yourself *off* and get dressed.

dry out [*phrasal verb*] **1** : to become dry ▪ Water the plant every week; don't allow the soil to *dry out* completely. **2 *dry out (something)* or *dry (something) out*** : to make (something) dry ▪ The wind *dries out* my eyes. ▪ Baking at a high temperature will *dry* the meat *out*. ▪ We *dried out* our shoes near the fire. **3** *informal* : to stop using drugs or alcohol for a period of time especially by going to a special kind of hospital ▪ After years of alcoholism, he went to a clinic to *dry out*.

dry up [*phrasal verb*] **1** : to become completely dry ▪ The river/well is *drying up*. ▪ The stream *dries up* every summer. **2 *dry up (something)* or *dry (something) up*** : to make (something) dry ▪ The sun had *dried up* the roads an hour after it stopped raining. **3** *informal* : to go away or disappear completely ▪ Interest in the project *dried up* when he withdrew his support. ▪ After several months, new leads in the murder investigation *dried up*. **4 *dry up (something)* or *dry (something) up*** : to cause the supply of (something) to go away or disappear ▪ Closing the factory *dried up* local job opportunities. **5** *informal + impolite* — used as a command to tell someone to stop talking ▪ Oh, *dry up*! [=*shut up*] I'm sick of hearing what you have to say. ▪ He told her to *dry up*.

hang (someone or something) out to dry see *hang out* at [1]HANG

dry cell *noun, pl* ~ **cells** [*count*] : a sealed container that holds chemicals which are used for producing electricity — called also *dry battery*

dry–clean /ˈdraɪˌkli:n/ *verb* **-cleans**; **-cleaned**; **-cleaning** [+ *obj*] : to clean (clothing, curtains, etc.) by using special chemicals instead of water ▪ His suit was *dry-cleaned*.

dry cleaner *noun, pl* ~ **-ers** [*count*] : a shop where clothes and other cloth items are dry-cleaned ▪ I take my clothes to a local *dry cleaner*. ▪ My wool coat is still at ***the dry cleaner's/cleaners***.

dry cleaning *noun* [*noncount*]
1 : the process of cleaning cloth with special chemicals instead of water ▪ *Dry cleaning* is recommended. ▪ a *dry-cleaning* shop [=a shop that does dry cleaning]
2 : clothing or cloth items that have been dry-cleaned ▪ I can pick up the *dry cleaning* on my way home.

dry dock *noun, pl* ~ **docks** : a dock that can be kept dry and that is used for building or repairing boats or ships [*count*] The *dry dock* is full. [*noncount*] The ship is in *dry dock*.

dry•er *also* **dri•er** /ˈdrajɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a device that is used for drying something (such as clothes or hair) by using heat or air ▪ He threw his wet clothes in the *dryer*. ▪ Her hair *dryer* broke. — see also BLOW-DRYER

dry–eyed /ˈdraɪˌaɪd/ *adj* : not crying ▪ She was *dry-eyed* during the funeral but cried all the way home afterwards.

dry goods *noun* [*plural*]
1 : items (such as tobacco, tea, and coffee) that do not contain liquid
2 *US, old-fashioned* : items made of cloth (such as fabrics, lace, and ribbon)

dry heaves *noun* [*plural*] *US* : a condition in which someone is vomiting but nothing is coming up from the stomach ▪ He had a case of (the) *dry heaves*.

dry ice *noun* [*noncount*] : solid carbon dioxide that is used mainly to keep food and other things cold and to create the appearance of smoke and fog in plays, movies, etc.

dry land *noun* [*noncount*] : land that is not covered with water : land as opposed to the ocean, a lake, etc. ▪ The sea was rough and we couldn't wait to get back to *dry land*.

dry•ly *also* **dri•ly** /ˈdraɪli/ *adv* [*more* ~; *most* ~]
1 : in a funny but quiet or serious way ▪ "I love this store!" "I couldn't tell," she said *dryly*.
2 : without excitement or emotion ▪ "If that's the way it must be," he remarked *dryly*, "that's the way it will be."

dry rot *noun* [*noncount*] : a condition in which wood is destroyed by a type of fungus ▪ The windowsill was badly damaged by *dry rot*. ▪ *Dry rot* had eaten away part of the beam.

dry run *noun, pl* ~ **runs** [*count*] : a practice event that is done to prepare for the actual event that will happen in the future ▪ We did a *dry run* of the experiment. ▪ After several *dry runs*, she was ready to give the speech. — called also (*Brit*) *dummy run*

dry•stone wall /ˈdraɪˌstoʊn-/ *noun, pl* ~ **walls** [*count*] *Brit* : a stone wall that is made without mortar to hold the stones together

dry•wall /ˈdraɪˌwɑ:l/ *noun* [*noncount*] *US* : building material that is used for making walls and ceilings and that is made of large sheets of plaster covered with thick paper : PLASTERBOARD

DSL *abbr* digital subscriber line ▪ high-speed *DSL* Internet access ✧ *DSL* refers to a system that uses telephone lines to allow you to connect to the Internet at high speeds.

DSS *abbr* Department of Social Services ✧ In the U.S., a state's Department of Social Services is usually responsible for protecting children from harmful treatment, helping people to adopt children, and providing advice and support to families and children who need it.

DTP *abbr* **1** desktop publishing **2** *or* ***DTaP*** diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis ▪ You need to have the *DTaP* vaccine before you can enroll in school.

D.T.'s /ˌdi:ˈti:z/ *noun* [*plural*] : a condition that is caused by drinking too much alcohol for a very long time and that causes a person to shake and see things that are not real — usually used with *the* ▪ an alcoholic who has *the D.T.'s* — called also *delirium tremens*

du•al /ˈdu:wəl, *Brit* ˈdju:wəl/ *adj, always used before a noun*
1 : having two different parts, uses, etc. ▪ the *dual* purpose of the study ▪ The song's lyrics have a *dual* [=(more commonly) *double*] meaning. ▪ a *dual* function ▪ She held ***dual citizenship*** in France and the United States. [=she was a citizen of both countries]
2 : having two of something ▪ Our car has *dual* air bags. [=has two air bags] ▪ She pursued *dual* careers in music and acting. ▪ families with *dual* incomes
– **du•al•ly** *adv* ▪ He is *dually* certified to teach math and science.

dual car•riage•way /-ˈkerɪʤˌweɪ/ *noun, pl* ~ **-ways** [*count*] *Brit* : DIVIDED HIGHWAY

du•al•ism /ˈdu:wəˌlɪzəm, *Brit* ˈdju:wəˌlɪzəm/ *noun* [*noncount*]
1 *philosophy* : the idea or belief that everything has two opposite parts or principles
2 *formal* : the quality or state of having two different or opposite parts or elements ▪ the *dualism* of human nature ▪ the *dualism* of good and evil
– **du•al•ist** /ˈdu:wəlɪst, *Brit* ˈdju:wəlɪst/ *noun, pl* **-ists** [*count*] – **du•al•is•tic** /ˌdu:wəˈlɪstɪk, *Brit* ˌdju:wəˈlɪstɪk/ *adj* ▪ a *dualistic* view/approach

du•al•i•ty /duˈæləti, *Brit* djuˈæləti/ *noun, pl* **-ties** *formal* : the quality or state of having two parts [*noncount*] the *duality* of human nature [*count*] They discussed the *dualities* of the novel's characters.

[1]dub /ˈdʌb/ *verb* **dubs**; **dubbed**; **dub•bing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to give (someone or something) a name or title ▪ The actress was *dubbed* "America's sweetheart." ▪ Critics *dubbed* him the new king of rock 'n' roll.
2 : to give (someone) the title of a knight ▪ The queen *dubbed* him Sir Philip.
– compare [2]DUB

[2]dub *verb* **dubs**; **dubbed**; **dub•bing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to replace the original recorded speech in a movie or television show with speech recorded in another language ▪ He was hired to *dub* the dialogue for a foreign film. — often used as *(be) dubbed* ▪ The film *was dubbed* in/into French and Spanish.
2 : to add (speech or other sounds) to a movie or television show — usually + *in* ▪ They *dubbed in* the music. = They *dubbed* the music *in*.
3 : to make a copy of (a movie, piece of music, etc.) that has already been recorded ▪ *dub* a CD
– compare [1]DUB

du•bi•ous /ˈdu:bijəs, *Brit* ˈdju:bijəs/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~]
1 *not used before a noun* : unsure or uncertain : feeling doubt about something — usually + *about* ▪ I was *dubious* [=*doubtful*] *about* our chances for success.
2 : causing doubt, uncertainty, or suspicion : likely to be bad or wrong ▪ Her conclusions are pretty *dubious*, if you

ask me. [=her conclusions are probably wrong] ▪ He made the highly *dubious* claim that Elvis is still alive and living in Hawaii. ▪ She was a *dubious* choice for the job. [=she was not a good choice for the job] ▪ They got their money through *dubious* means/methods. [=methods that were probably dishonest or illegal] ▪ a man of *dubious* character

3 — used ironically in phrases like ***dubious honor*** and ***dubious distinction*** to describe something bad or undesirable as if it were an honor or achievement ▪ He is the lawyer with the *dubious honor* of having lost the most cases in the firm. ▪ We had the *dubious distinction* of losing 12 games in a row.

– **du·bi·ous·ly** *adv* ▪ He looked at me *dubiously* when I explained why I was late. – **du·bi·ous·ness** *noun* [*noncount*]

du·cal /ˈduːkəl, *Brit* ˈdjuːkəl/ *adj, always used before a noun* : of or relating to a duke ▪ the *ducal* palace ▪ a *ducal* title

duch·ess /ˈdʌʧəs/ *noun, pl* **-ess·es** [*count*]
1 : the wife or widow of a duke
2 : a woman who has the same rank as a duke

duchy /ˈdʌʧi/ *noun, pl* **duch·ies** [*count*] : an area of land that is controlled by a duke or duchess

[1]duck /ˈdʌk/ *noun, pl* **ducks**
1 [*count*] : any one of many different kinds of birds that swim and have a flat beak, a short neck, a heavy body, short legs, and webbed feet — often used before another noun ▪ *duck* eggs/feathers ▪ a *duck* pond ▪ *duck* hunting — see color picture on page C9
2 [*count*] : a female duck — compare DRAKE
3 [*noncount*] : the meat of a duck used as food ▪ crispy roast *duck*
4 [*count*] *informal* : a person who you think is lucky, unusual, etc. ▪ He's an ***odd duck***. [=a strange person] ▪ You ***lucky duck***!
5 *or* ***ducks*** *Brit, informal* — used to address someone you love ▪ How was your day, *ducks*? [=*sweetheart, darling*]
like a duck to water *informal* : very quickly or easily ▪ She ***took to dancing like a duck (takes) to water***. [=she learned to dance very quickly and easily] ▪ He *took to her like a duck to water*. [=he liked her immediately]
water off a duck's back see [1]WATER
– see also DEAD DUCK, LAME DUCK, SITTING DUCK

[2]duck *verb* **ducks; ducked; duck·ing**
1 a [*no obj*] : to lower your head or body suddenly to avoid being seen or hit ▪ The ceiling was so low I had to *duck*. — often + *down* ▪ Quick, *duck down* before they see us! **b** [+ *obj*] : to lower (your head) suddenly ▪ The ceiling was so low I had to *duck* my head. ▪ He *ducked* his head so they wouldn't see him. **c** [+ *obj*] : to avoid (something, such as a punch) by lowering your head or body suddenly ▪ He *ducked* the punch.
2 [+ *obj*] : to avoid (something or someone you do not want to see or deal with) ▪ We can't afford to *duck* the issue any longer. ▪ He managed to *duck* [=*evade*] the question. ▪ They've been *ducking* each other for months.
3 *always followed by an adverb or preposition* [*no obj*] : to move quickly ▪ She *ducked* into a store when it started to rain. ▪ He *ducked* around a corner.
4 [+ *obj*] *Brit* : to push (someone or something) underwater : DUNK ▪ The children were *ducking* each other in the pool.
duck out [*phrasal verb*] *informal* : to leave suddenly and usually without telling anyone that you are leaving ▪ We *ducked out* after the first act of the play. — often + *on* or *of* ▪ They *ducked out on* us without even saying goodbye. ▪ I had to *duck out of* the meeting to take a phone call. — often used figuratively ▪ He wants to *duck out of* the contract. [=to get out of the contract] ▪ She *ducked out on* paying the bill for the meal. [=she avoided paying the bill in a sneaky or improper way]

duck–billed platypus *noun, pl* ~ **-puses** [*count*] : PLATYPUS

duck·ling /ˈdʌklɪŋ/ *noun, pl* **-lings** [*count*]
1 : a young duck — see also UGLY DUCKLING
2 : the meat of a young duck that is used as food ▪ roast *duckling*

duck sauce *noun* [*noncount*] *US* : a sweet, thick sauce that is used in Chinese cooking

duck soup *noun* [*noncount*] *US, informal + old-fashioned* : something that is very easy to do ▪ The trip was *duck soup* for experienced travelers.

[1]ducky /ˈdʌki/ *adj* **duck·i·er; -est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~] *US, informal + somewhat old-fashioned* : very pleasing, delightful, or attractive ▪ Everything is just *ducky*. [=*satisfactory, fine*] — often used ironically to describe something that is bad or unpleasant ▪ "Our flight is delayed." "Well, isn't that just *ducky*!"

[2]ducky *noun, pl* **duck·ies** [*count*] *chiefly US, informal*
1 : a duck ✧ *Ducky* is used especially by children or when talking to children. ▪ Look at the cute little *ducky*!
2 : a toy duck ▪ a rubber *ducky* [=a rubber toy that looks like a duck]

duct /ˈdʌkt/ *noun, pl* **ducts** [*count*]
1 : a pipe or tube for air, water, electric power lines, etc., to pass through ▪ a building's air/heating/ventilation *ducts*
2 : a tube in the body that carries a particular liquid ▪ tear *ducts* ▪ the bile *duct*

duc·tile /ˈdʌktl̩, ˈdʌkˌtʰajəɬ/ *adj, technical, of a metal* : capable of being bent or pulled into different shapes ▪ *ductile* iron

duct·ing /ˈdʌktɪŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*] *technical*
1 : the material used to make ducts ▪ a piece of *ducting*
2 *chiefly Brit* : DUCTWORK

duct tape *noun* [*noncount*] : a wide, sticky, and usually silver tape that is made of cloth and that is used especially to repair things

duct·work /ˈdʌktˌwɚk/ *noun* [*noncount*] *chiefly US* : a system of ducts

[1]dud /ˈdʌd/ *noun, pl* **duds**
1 [*count*] : something that does not do what it is supposed to do : something that is a complete failure ▪ The movie was a box office *dud*. [=few people went to see the movie] ▪ The seeds must have been *duds* because the plants never grew. ▪ The firework was a *dud*. [=the firework did not explode]
2 ***duds*** [*plural*] *informal* : clothes ▪ She put on her new *duds* for the party.

[2]dud *adj, always used before a noun* — used to describe something that fails completely or does not work properly ▪ a *dud* grenade [=a grenade that does not explode] ▪ a *dud* movie [=a movie that fails] ▪ (*Brit*) a *dud* cheque [=a bad check, a check that cannot be cashed]

dude /ˈduːd, *Brit* ˈdjuːd/ *noun, pl* **dudes** [*count*] *chiefly US slang* : a man — used especially by young people ▪ He's a cool *dude*. [=*guy*] ▪ Ask that *dude* over there. ▪ a surfer *dude* ▪ Hey, *dude*, what's up?

dude ranch *noun, pl* ~ **ranches** [*count*] : a large farm especially in the western U.S. where people on vacation can ride horses and do other activities that cowboys typically do

dud·geon /ˈdʌʤən/ *noun*
in high dudgeon *formal* : feeling and usually showing that you are angry or offended ▪ She walked out of the meeting *in high dudgeon*.

[1]due /ˈduː, *Brit* ˈdjuː/ *adj*
1 *not used before a noun* : required or expected to happen : expected to be in a particular place at a particular time ▪ When is the assignment *due*? [=when are you supposed to give the completed assignment to your teacher?] ▪ Your books are *due* back to the library (by/on) May 15. [=you must return your books to the library by May 15] ▪ The movie is *due* out this summer. [=the movie is supposed to be released in theaters this summer] — often followed by *to* + *verb* ▪ They are *due to arrive* any minute now.
2 *not used before a noun* **a** : expected to be born ▪ The baby is *due* [=the baby will probably be born] in three weeks. **b** : expected to give birth ▪ When is she *due*? ▪ My wife is *due* in three weeks.
3 *not used before a noun* : having reached the date by which payment is required ▪ The bill is *due* at the end of the month. ▪ The balance is now *due*. ▪ The amount *due* is 45 dollars. ▪ The bill is ***past due***. [=it is late; it should have been paid before now]
4 *not used before a noun* — used to say that someone should be given something or has earned something ▪ He is *due* a full day's pay. ▪ Teachers are not always accorded the respect *due* (to) them. = They are not always given the respect they are *due*. ▪ He finally got the recognition he was *due*. ▪ I will ***give credit where credit is due***.
5 *always used before a noun* : appropriate or proper ▪ She accepted the compliment with *due* modesty. ▪ The issue demands *due* consideration. ▪ I will answer all of your questions ***in due time***. [=eventually at an appropriate time] ▪ The court agreed that he failed to exercise ***due care/caution/diligence*** in trying to prevent the accident. [=he should have done more to prevent the accident from happening]
due for : needing, requiring, or expecting something to happen ▪ I'm *due for* a dentist's appointment. [=I need to go to the dentist soon] ▪ He will be *due for* another raise in June.

due to : because of (something) • The accident was primarily *due to* her carelessness. • *Due to* the bad weather, the game was canceled. • Their success is *due to* a lot of hard work. = They are successful *due to* the fact that they work hard. • Traffic was slow *due to* roadwork. • The pool is closed *due to* the approaching storm.

in due course see [1]COURSE

with (all) due respect see [1]RESPECT

[2]due *noun, pl* **dues**

1 *dues* [*plural*] : a regular payment that you make to be a member of an organization • Membership *dues* are $45. • *Dues* are increasing this year. • Workers are required to join the union and pay *dues*.

2 [*noncount*] : something that someone should be given : something that a person has earned • He deserves to be given his *due*. • She has yet to receive her *due*. = She is still being denied her *due*. ✧ People use the phrase ***to give someone his/her due*** when they are going to say something good about someone they have criticized. • I can't say that I like him, but *to give him his due* [=to be fair to him], I trust him completely.

pay your dues : to work hard and have difficult experiences in order to become successful • I've *paid my dues*. It's time that I began reaping some benefits.

[3]due *adv* : directly or exactly — followed by *north, south, east,* or *west* • The lake is *due north* of the city. • The road runs *due south*.

due date *noun, pl* ~ **dates** [*count*] : the day when someone or something is due: such as **a** : the day by which something must be done, paid, etc. • The *due date* for the assignment is Friday. • Tomorrow's the *due date* for our electricity bill. [=the bill must be paid by tomorrow] **b** : the day when a woman is expected to give birth • She started having contractions two weeks before her *due date*.

[1]du•el /'du:wəl, *Brit* 'dju:wəl/ *noun, pl* **-els** [*count*]

1 : a fight between two people that includes the use of weapons (such as guns or swords) and that usually happens while other people watch ✧ Duels were used in the past to settle arguments or protect someone's honor. • I challenge you to a *duel*.

2 : a situation in which two people or groups argue or compete with each other • They engaged in a *duel* of wits. • The baseball game turned into a *duel* between the teams' pitchers. = The game turned into a pitching *duel*.

[2]duel *verb* **duels**; *US* **du•eled** *or Brit* **du•elled**; *US* **du•el•ing** *or Brit* **du•el•ling** [*no obj*] : to fight a duel: such as **a** : to fight with someone using weapons (such as guns or swords) while other people watch • He accepted the challenge to *duel*. **b** : to compete or argue with someone • Legislators *dueled* over the tax increases. • The two runners *dueled* for the lead.

due process *noun* [*noncount*] *US, law* : the official and proper way of doing things in a legal case : the rule that a legal case must be done in a way that protects the rights of all the people involved • *Due process* requires that evidence not be admitted when it is obtained through illegal methods.

du•et /du'ɛt, *Brit* dju'ɛt/ *noun, pl* **-ets** [*count*] : a piece of music that is performed by two singers or musicians • They sang the *duet* beautifully. • a piano and flute *duet*

duff /'dʌf/ *noun, pl* **duffs** [*count*] *US, informal* : the part of the body you sit on : BUTTOCKS • Get off your *duff* [=*butt, rear*] and help me!

duf•fel bag *or* **duf•fle bag** /'dʌfəl-/ *noun, pl* ~ **bags** [*count*] : a large cloth bag that is held by a strap or handles and is used to carry personal belongings — see picture at BAG

duf•fer /'dʌfɚ/ *noun, pl* **-fers** [*count*] *informal*

1 *chiefly US* : a person who plays golf without much skill • We joined the other *duffers* at the course. • a weekend *duffer*

2 *Brit* : a clumsy or awkward person • He's a lovable old *duffer*.

dug *past tense and past participle of* [1]DIG

dug•out /'dʌg,aʊt/ *noun, pl* **-outs** [*count*]

1 : a low shelter that faces a baseball field and contains the bench where the players and coaches of a team sit

2 : a shelter that is made by digging a hole in the ground or into the side of a hill

3 : a small boat that is made by cutting out the center of a large tree trunk — called also *dugout canoe*

duh /'dʌ, *usually with a prolonged vowel*/ *interj, US, informal*

1 — used in an angry or annoyed way to show that something just said is already known or is obvious • "It sure is dark out." "*Duh*, it's the middle of the night." • "You have to turn the key to start the car." "Well, *duh*." [=I know that]

2 — used to show or pretend that you do not know something • "Why didn't you leave earlier?" "*Duh*, I don't know."

DUI /ˌdi:ˌju:'aɪ/ *noun, pl* **DUIs** *US* : the crime of driving a vehicle while drunk [*noncount*] He was arrested for *DUI*. [*count*] She was in jail on a *DUI*. — often used before another noun • a *DUI* arrest/conviction; *also* [*count*] : a person who is arrested for driving a vehicle while drunk • He is a convicted *DUI*. — called also *DWI* ✧ *DUI* is an abbreviation of "driving under the influence."

du jour /du'ʒɚ/ *adj, not used before a noun*

1 : served in a restaurant as a special item on a particular day • Our soup *du jour* is chicken noodle. • the vegetable/dessert *du jour*

2 *formal* : happening or popular at a particular time • Long hair was the style *du jour*. • the crisis *du jour* ✧ *Du jour* is a French phrase that means "of the day."

[1]duke /'du:k, *Brit* 'dju:k/ *noun, pl* **dukes**

1 [*count*] : a man of very high rank in the British nobility

2 [*count*] : the ruler of an independent area of land especially in some parts of Europe in the past — compare DUCHESS; see also ARCHDUKE

3 *dukes* [*plural*] *US slang, old-fashioned* : fists or hands • ***Put up your dukes*** and fight, you coward!

[2]duke *verb* **dukes**; **duked**; **duk•ing**

duke it out *US, informal* : to fight with your fists • A couple of drunks were *duking it out*. — often used figuratively • Scientists *duked it out* [=*argued*] over the causes of global warming. • Airlines are *duking it out* [=*competing*] for customers by lowering airfares.

duke•dom /'du:kdəm, *Brit* 'dju:kdəm/ *noun, pl* **-doms** [*count*]

1 : an area of land that is controlled by a duke or duchess : DUCHY

2 : the rank of a duke

dul•cet /'dʌlsət/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] *formal* : pleasant to hear • the *dulcet* [=*melodious*] sounds of the piano • her *dulcet* [=*sweet*] voice • the ***dulcet tones*** of her voice

dul•ci•mer /'dʌlsəmɚ/ *noun, pl* **-mers** [*count*]

1 : a flat musical instrument that has strings stretched across it and is played with two light hammers

2 : an instrument used in American folk music that has three or four strings, is held on the lap, and is played with the fingers, a pick, or a small stick

[1]dull /'dʌl/ *adj* **dull•er**; **-est**

1 : not exciting or interesting : BORING • a *dull* lecture/speaker • There's ***never a dull moment*** in our house. [=our house is always very busy or exciting]

2 : having an edge or point that is not sharp • a *dull* [=*blunt*] knife • a *dull* pencil

3 *of a sound* : not clear and loud • the *dull* roar of the crowd • He heard a *dull* [=*muffled*] thud.

4 *of pain* : constant but not sharp or severe • She complained of a *dull* ache/pain in her knee.

5 : not shiny • The paint has a *dull* finish. • The dog had no appetite and its eyes were *dull*.

6 : not sunny : having a lot of clouds • a *dull* winter sky

7 : slightly grayish or dark : not bright • a *dull* light • The sky was a *dull* blue.

8 *old-fashioned* : stupid or slow in understanding something • a *dull* student

9 : not having a lot of business or financial activity • a *dull* [=*slow, sluggish*] market

(as) dull as dishwater see DISHWATER

(as) dull as ditchwater see DITCHWATER

– **dull•ness** *noun* [*noncount*] • I couldn't get past the *dullness* of the book's topic. – **dul•ly** *adv* • He sat staring *dully* into the distance.

[2]dull *verb* **dulls**; **dulled**; **dull•ing** : to become dull or to make (something) dull: such as **a** : to become or cause (something) to become less clear, distinct, bright, or shiny [+ *obj*] Fog *dulled* the morning sunlight. • Special earplugs *dulled* the sound of the chain saw. [*no obj*] His hair *dulled* as he aged. • The dog's eyes *dulled* as he got sick. **b** [+ *obj*] : to make (something, such as a feeling) less sharp, strong, or severe • She takes medicine to *dull* the pain. • Fear *dulled* his need for adventure. • (*formal*) Her mind was *dulled* by the medication. **c** : to become or cause (something, such as a knife or blade) to become less sharp [+ *obj*] The knife was *dulled* from use. [*no obj*] The blade should be replaced as soon as it *dulls*.

dull•ard /ˈdʌlə·d/ *noun, pl* **-ards** [*count*] *old-fashioned* : a stupid and uninteresting person ▪ The company is run by a bunch of *dullards*.

du•ly /ˈduːli, *Brit* ˈdjuːli/ *adv, formal*
1 : in the proper or expected way ▪ They were *duly* impressed by her speech. ▪ The objections were ***duly noted***.
2 : at the correct or expected time ▪ The singer *duly* appeared back on stage for an encore.

[1]dumb /ˈdʌm/ *adj* **dumb•er; -est**
1 *informal* **a** : not showing or having good judgment or intelligence : stupid or foolish ▪ I'm not *dumb* enough to believe that. ▪ It was a *dumb* idea in the first place. ▪ He just stood there with a *dumb* grin on his face. ▪ This is one of the *dumbest* TV shows I've ever seen. ▪ She ***played/acted dumb*** [=pretended to know or understand less than she really did] so we would assign her the easier tasks. **b** : not requiring or resulting from intelligence ▪ It was ***dumb luck*** that we found this place at all. ▪ His success is just a matter of *dumb luck*.
2 a : not able to speak especially after being shocked or surprised ▪ I was ***struck dumb*** [=made speechless] by the surprise. — see also DUMBSTRUCK **b** *old-fashioned + often offensive* : not having the ability to speak ▪ He was born deaf and *dumb*.
– **dumb•ly** *adv* ▪ He stared *dumbly* at the test. – **dumbness** *noun* [*noncount*] *informal* ▪ The movie's *dumbness* [=*stupidity*] is actually pretty funny.

[2]dumb *verb* **dumbs; dumbed; dumb•ing**
dumb down [*phrasal verb*] ***dumb down (something)*** *or* ***dumb (something) down*** *usually disapproving* **1** : to make (something) easier to understand ▪ She refused to *dumb down* the language in her report. ▪ The movie was a *dumbed down* version of the play. **2** : to make (a group of people) less intelligent or educated ▪ Cutting training programs will *dumb down* the American workforce.
– **dumbing down** *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ She thinks television is contributing to the *dumbing down* of America.

dumb•bell /ˈdʌmˌbɛl/ *noun, pl* **-bells** [*count*]
1 : a short bar with weights at the ends that is used to make muscles stronger — see picture at GYM
2 *US, informal* : a stupid or foolish person ▪ I feel like a *dumbbell* for making such a stupid mistake.

dumb•found•ed /ˌdʌmˈfaʊndəd/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : very shocked or surprised ▪ We were *dumbfounded* at what we saw. ▪ I was *dumbfounded* to hear that she resigned.
– **dumb•found** /ˌdʌmˈfaʊnd/ *verb* **-founds; -found•ed; -found•ing** [+ *obj*] ▪ It *dumbfounded* me to hear that she had resigned.

dumb•struck /ˈdʌmˌstrʌk/ *adj* : so shocked or surprised that you cannot speak ▪ The people in the courtroom were *dumbstruck* by his confession.

dumb•wait•er /ˈdʌmˌweɪtə·/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a small elevator for carrying food or goods from one floor of a building to another

dum•dum /ˈdʌmˌdʌm/ *noun, pl* **-dums** [*count*] : a bullet that expands or explodes when it hits an object in order to cause greater damage — called also *dumdum bullet*

[1]dum•my /ˈdʌmi/ *noun, pl* **dum•mies**
1 [*count*] *chiefly US, informal* : a stupid person ▪ He's no *dummy*. [=*fool*] ▪ She loves you, you *dummy*.
2 [*count*] : a doll that is shaped like and is as large as a person ▪ a tailor's/dressmaker's *dummy* ▪ They practiced CPR on a *dummy*. ▪ a ***crash test dummy*** [=a life-size model of a person used in tests to see what happens to people when a car gets in an accident]
3 [*count*] : a copy of a finished object that is used during practice or training ▪ The bomb was just a *dummy*.
4 [*count*] : a large doll with a movable mouth that is used by a performer ▪ a ventriloquist's *dummy*
5 [*noncount*] : the set of cards in a game of bridge that are played faceup so everyone can see them
6 [*count*] *Brit* : PACIFIER

[2]dummy *adj, always used before a noun* : looking real but not functioning or able to be used ▪ They took apart a *dummy* bomb. ▪ a *dummy* corporation [=a corporation that is not real] ▪ a ***dummy pill*** [=*placebo*]

dummy run *noun, pl* ~ **runs** [*count*] *Brit* : DRY RUN

[1]dump /ˈdʌmp/ *verb* **dumps; dumped; dump•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to put (something) somewhere in a quick and careless way ▪ You can *dump* the coats on the bed. ▪ I *dumped* the coffee down the drain. ▪ The murderer *dumped* the body in the river. — sometimes used figuratively ▪ The blizzard *dumped* three feet of snow in one night.
2 : to leave or get rid of (something or someone) quickly or without concern ▪ They *dumped* [=*left*] their friends at the party and went home. ▪ The team's coach was *dumped* [=*fired*] after a season of losses. ▪ They had to *dump* [=quickly sell] most of their stock to pay off their debts.
3 *informal* : to end a romantic relationship with (someone) ▪ My girlfriend *dumped* me. ▪ I got *dumped* yesterday.
4 : to get rid of (waste or garbage) especially in a secret and illegal way ▪ The factory has been *dumping* waste into the river.
5 : to sell (goods) in foreign countries for less than what they would sell for in your own country ▪ The company *dumped* its unsold parts on the U.S. market.
6 *computers* : to copy or move (data) from a computer's memory to a disk, another computer, etc. ▪ *Dump* the file to a disk.
dump in your lap see [1]LAP
dump on [*phrasal verb*] *informal* **1 *dump on (someone)*** *US* : to criticize (someone) severely ▪ I'm tired of getting *dumped on* every time I make a little mistake. **2 *dump (something) on (someone)*** : to give (something) to (someone else) to do, deal with, or think about because you do not want to ▪ She *dumped* her chores *on* her little brother. ▪ I can't stand it when he *dumps* all his problems *on* me. ▪ I hate to *dump* this *on* you.

[2]dump *noun, pl* **dumps** [*count*]
1 : a place where waste (such as trash) is taken and left ▪ We bring our trash to the town *dump* on Saturdays. ▪ (*US*) a ***garbage dump*** ▪ The site has become a ***toxic (waste) dump***. [=a place where dangerous waste is left usually illegally]
2 : a place where military supplies are stored ▪ an ammunition *dump*
3 *informal* : a messy, dirty, and unpleasant place ▪ I can't believe you live in this *dump*. [=*pigsty*] ▪ What a *dump*!
4 *computers* : an act of sending data stored in a computer to another place ▪ a screen *dump* to the printer
down in the dumps *informal* : feeling very sad ▪ I guess I'm just *down in the dumps*.
take a dump *informal + impolite* : to pass solid waste from the body

dump•er /ˈdʌmpə·/ *noun, pl* **-ers** *chiefly US*
1 [*count*] : a person who leaves waste where it is not supposed to be left ▪ The cops caught the illegal *dumpers*.
2 *the dumper* *informal* : a state of failure ▪ The economy is ***in the dumper***. ▪ His career has ***gone down the dumper***. [=his career has been ruined]

dumper truck *noun, pl* ~ **trucks** [*count*] *Brit* : DUMP TRUCK

dump•ing /ˈdʌmpɪŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the act of getting rid of waste or garbage especially in an illegal way ▪ No *dumping* allowed. ▪ laws that prohibit the *dumping* of toxic materials

dumping ground *noun, pl* ~ **grounds** [*count*] : a place where people or things that are not wanted are sent — often + *for* ▪ The class became a *dumping ground for* students with behavioral problems.

dump•ling /ˈdʌmplɪŋ/ *noun, pl* **-lings** [*count*]
1 : a small lump of dough that is boiled or steamed ▪ chicken and *dumplings*
2 : a piece of food that is wrapped in dough and cooked ▪ We had vegetarian/pork *dumplings* as an appetizer. ▪ an apple *dumpling*

Dump•ster /ˈdʌmpstə·/ *trademark* — used for a large trash container

dump truck *noun, pl* ~ **trucks** [*count*] *US* : a large truck usually with a container on the back of it that is used for carrying and unloading loose material — called also (*Brit*) *dumper truck*; see picture at TRUCK

dumpy /ˈdʌmpi/ *adj* **dump•i•er; -est** *informal*
1 : short and fat ▪ a *dumpy* guy in his forties
2 *US* : dirty and in bad condition ▪ *dumpy* hotel rooms

dunce /ˈdʌns/ *noun, pl* **dunc•es** [*count*] *old-fashioned* : someone who is stupid or slow at learning things ▪ Don't be a *dunce*. ▪ a ***dunce/dunce's cap*** [=a tall pointy hat worn in the past by students as a punishment for failing to learn their lessons]

dune /ˈduːn, *Brit* ˈdjuːn/ *noun, pl* **dunes** [*count*] : a hill of sand near an ocean or in a desert that is formed by the wind ▪ We wandered over the *dunes*. — called also *sand dune*; see color picture on page C7

dune buggy *noun, pl* ~ **-gies** [*count*] : a small vehicle with very large tires for driving on sand — called also *beach buggy*

dung /ˈdʌŋ/ *noun* [*noncount*] : solid waste from an animal ▪ cow/cattle *dung*

dun•ga•rees /ˌdʌŋgəˈriːz/ *noun* [*plural*]
1 *US, old-fashioned* : pants or work clothes made of usually blue denim ▪ a new pair of *dungarees* [=(more commonly) *jeans*]
2 *Brit* : OVERALLS

dun•geon /ˈdʌnʤən/ *noun, pl* **-geons** [*count*] : a dark underground prison in a castle ▪ The king threw them in/into the *dungeon*.

[1]dunk /ˈdʌŋk/ *verb* **dunks**; **dunked**; **dunk•ing**
1 [+ *obj*] **a** : to dip (food) quickly into a liquid (such as coffee or milk) while eating ▪ I like to *dunk* my doughnut in my coffee. **b** *chiefly US* : to push (someone or something) under water or other liquid for a short amount of time ▪ She *dunked* him while they were swimming. ▪ He *dunked* the ladle into the soup.
2 *basketball* : to jump high in the air and push (the ball) down through the basket [+ *obj*] He *dunked* the ball. [*no obj*] He could *dunk* when he was 16.

[2]dunk *noun, pl* **dunks** [*count*] *basketball* : a shot that is made by jumping high in the air and pushing the ball down through the basket ▪ The pass led to a *dunk*. — called also *dunk shot, slam dunk*

dun•no /dəˈnoʊ/ — used in writing to represent the sound of the phrase *don't know* or *I don't know* when it is spoken quickly ▪ "What do you want to do today?" "I *dunno*." ▪ "Where did he go?" "*Dunno*." ✧ The pronunciation represented by *dunno* is common in informal speech. The written form should be avoided except when you are trying to represent or record such speech.

duo /ˈduːwoʊ, *Brit* ˈdjuːwəʊ/ *noun, pl* **du•os** [*count*]
1 : two people who perform together, are usually seen together, or are associated with each other ▪ The comedy *duo* will perform tonight. ▪ The author-illustrator *duo* will be signing their books tomorrow. ▪ He and his partner make/form quite a *duo*.
2 : a piece of music that is performed by two musicians ▪ They sang a *duo*. [=(more commonly) *duet*]

du•o•de•num /ˌduːwəˈdiːnəm, *Brit* ˌdjuːwəˈdiːnəm/ *noun, pl* **-de•na** /-ˈdiːnə/ *or* **-de•nums** [*count*] *medical* : the part of the small intestine that is right below your stomach
– **du•o•de•nal** /ˌduːwəˈdiːnl̩, *Brit* ˌdjuːwəˈdiːnl̩/ *adj* ▪ *duodenal* ulcers

[1]dupe /ˈduːp, *Brit* ˈdjuːp/ *verb* **dupes**; **duped**; **dup•ing** [+ *obj*] : to deceive or trick (someone) into believing or doing something ▪ They *duped* her out of $300. — usually used as *(be) duped* ▪ He *was duped* into buying a phony watch. ▪ We *were duped* by the con artist.

[2]dupe *noun, pl* **dupes** [*count*] : a person who is easily deceived or tricked ▪ He was an unwitting *dupe* in the scheme.

du•plex /ˈduːˌplɛks, *Brit* ˈdjuːˌplɛks/ *noun, pl* **-plex•es** [*count*] *US*
1 : a building that is divided into two separate homes ▪ We live in the brick *duplex*.
2 : an apartment with two floors ▪ a *duplex* penthouse

[1]du•pli•cate /ˈduːplɪkət, *Brit* ˈdjuːplɪkət/ *adj, always used before a noun* : exactly the same as something else ▪ I began receiving *duplicate* copies of the magazine every month. : made as an exact copy of something else ▪ I had a *duplicate* key made. — compare TRIPLICATE

[2]du•pli•cate /ˈduːplɪˌkeɪt, *Brit* ˈdjuːplɪˌkeɪt/ *verb* **-cates**; **-cat•ed**; **-cat•ing** [+ *obj*]
1 : to make an exact copy of (something) ▪ She *duplicated* the video to give to family and friends. ▪ Unfortunately, the results of the first study could not be *duplicated*.
2 : to produce (something) in another form ▪ They tried to *duplicate* [=*repeat*] last year's performance. ▪ If we both do the project, we'll just be *duplicating* the work. [=doing the same work twice; doing more work than we need to]

[3]du•pli•cate /ˈduːplɪkət, *Brit* ˈdjuːplɪkət/ *noun, pl* **-cates** [*count*] : something that is exactly the same as something else : an exact copy of something else ▪ In case you lose your keys, keep a set of *duplicates* somewhere safe. — often + *of* ▪ He made *duplicates of* the forms before mailing them. ▪ an exact *duplicate of* the original
in duplicate **1** : two times so that there are two copies ▪ We were required to fill out the paperwork *in duplicate*. **2** : with an exact copy ▪ Please send the contract *in duplicate*.

du•pli•ca•tion /ˌduːplɪˈkeɪʃən, *Brit* ˌdjuːplɪˈkeɪʃən/ *noun*
1 [*noncount*] : the act or process of copying something ▪ He sent the manuscript out for *duplication*.
2 : the state of containing copies of something or being a copy of something [*noncount*] Please eliminate *duplication* when combining the lists. [*count*] It was a needless *duplication* of work. [=they did the work twice though they did not need to]

du•plic•i•ty /duːˈplɪsəti, *Brit* djuːˈplɪsəti/ *noun* [*noncount*] *formal* : dishonest behavior that is meant to trick someone ▪ He exposed the spy's *duplicity*.
– **du•plic•i•tous** /duːˈplɪsətəs, *Brit* djuːˈplɪsətəs/ *adj* ▪ *duplicitous* [=*deceptive*] tactics

du•ra•ble /ˈdurəbəl, *Brit* ˈdjʊrəbəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : staying strong and in good condition over a long period of time ▪ *durable* fabric — often used figuratively ▪ She is one of Hollywood's most *durable* stars. ▪ a *durable* athlete ▪ *durable* myths
– **du•ra•bil•i•ty** /ˌdurəˈbɪləti, *Brit* ˌdjʊrəˈbɪləti/ *noun* [*noncount*] ▪ cars known for their *durability* – **du•ra•bly** /ˈdurəbli, *Brit* ˈdjʊrəbli/ *adv* ▪ *durably* built homes

durable goods *noun* [*plural*] *US* : products (such as cars and stoves) that that usually last a very long time — called also (*Brit*) *consumer durables*

du•ra•tion /duˈreɪʃən, *Brit* djuˈreɪʃən/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the length of time that something exists or lasts ▪ You should gradually increase the *duration* of your workout.
for the duration : until the end of something ▪ He was living in England when the war began and remained there *for the duration*. — often + *of* ▪ The camera remained on the President *for the duration of* his speech.

du•ress /duˈrɛs, *Brit* djuˈrɛs/ *noun* [*noncount*] *formal* : force or threats meant to make someone do something ▪ He gave the information ***under duress***.

dur•ing /ˈdurɪŋ, *Brit* ˈdjʊrɪŋ/ *prep*
1 : throughout the entire time of (an event, period, occurrence, etc.) ▪ She swims every day *during* the summer. ▪ We got along well *during* the trip. ▪ He worked in the field *during* most of the day.
2 : at some time in the course of (something) ▪ You can call me *during* the day. [=at some time in the day] ▪ *During* the interview, they asked about my previous jobs. ▪ The fire alarm went off *during* the ceremony.

dusk /ˈdʌsk/ *noun* [*noncount*] : the time when day changes into night and the sky begins to get darker ▪ The park closes ***at dusk***. — compare [1]DAWN

dusky /ˈdʌski/ *adj* **dusk•i•er**; **-est** : somewhat dark ▪ a *dusky* brown ▪ in the *dusky* firelight

[1]dust /ˈdʌst/ *noun* [*noncount*]
1 : fine dry powder that builds up inside buildings on surfaces that have not recently been cleaned ▪ The floor was covered with *dust*. ▪ You can see the ***dust particles*** floating through the air. ▪ There is not a ***speck of dust*** in that house. ✧ Something that is ***collecting/gathering dust*** is not being used. ▪ The book just sat on the shelf *gathering dust*.
2 : fine powder made up of very small pieces of earth or sand ▪ As the car sped down the dirt road, it left a cloud of *dust* behind. ▪ The wind ***kicked up dust*** [=blew dust into the air]
3 : fine powder made from a particular substance ▪ coal/gold *dust* ▪ He wiped the chalk *dust* off his hands. — see also SAWDUST
bite the dust see [1]BITE
eat dust *US, informal* : to breathe the dust that has been raised into the air by the vehicle that is moving in front of you ▪ He said, "***Eat my dust!***" as he jumped in his car and drove away. — often used figuratively ▪ They've left other companies *eating their dust*. [=they have gone far ahead of other companies]
leave (someone) in the dust *US, informal* : to go far ahead of (someone) : to be much more advanced than (someone) ▪ The company has *left* its competitors *in the dust*.
the dust settles — used to talk about what happens when things become clear or calm after a period of change or confusion ▪ I'll call you ***as soon as the dust settles*** from the move. [=as soon as I am not busy with moving] ▪ ***When the dust settled*** [=when the situation became less confusing] and the votes were recounted, she had won the election. ▪ You should ***let the dust settle*** before you make any big decisions.

[2]dust *verb* **dusts**; **dust•ed**; **dust•ing**
1 : to make (something) clean by brushing or wiping dirt and dust from the surface [+ *obj*] He *dusted* the furniture. — often + *off* or *down* ▪ She *dusted* the sand *off* her leg. ▪ (*US*) He stood up and ***dusted himself off***. = (*Brit*) He stood up and

dusted himself down. [=he brushed the dirt/dust off his clothes] [*no obj*] I *dust* at least once a week.

2 [+ *obj*] : to cover (something) with a fine powder ▪ *Dust* the pan with flour. ▪ The police *dusted* the table for fingerprints. [=they put a fine powder on the table so that any fingerprints could be seen] ▪ The crops will be *dusted* with pesticide.

dust off [*phrasal verb*] ***dust (something) off*** *or* ***dust off (something)*** : to use (something) again after not using it for a long time ▪ For his comeback tour, the comedian *dusted off* some of his old jokes. — see also ²DUST 1 (above)

dust•bin /ˈdʌstˌbɪn/ *noun, pl* **-bins** [*count*] *Brit* : a can for trash or garbage : a garbage can or trash can

dust bowl *noun, pl* ~ **bowls** [*count*] : an area of land that was once used for farming but that has become a desert because of a lack of rain ▪ They left the *dust bowl* and moved west.

dust bunny *noun, pl* ~ **-nies** [*count*] *US, informal* : a ball of dust that forms in places that are not swept or dusted often ▪ I swept the *dust bunnies* from under the bed.

dust•cart /ˈdʌstˌkɑɚt/ *noun, pl* **-carts** [*count*] *Brit* : GARBAGE TRUCK

dust cover *noun, pl* ~ **-ers** [*count*]

1 : DUST JACKET

2 : a piece of cloth, plastic, etc., that covers and protects something from dust

dust devil *noun, pl* ~ **-ils** [*count*] *chiefly US* : a small area of rapidly spinning wind that contains sand or dust

dust•er /ˈdʌstɚ/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*]

1 : something that removes dust ▪ a ***feather duster*** [=a tool with feathers at one end used to remove dust]

2 *US* : a device that is used by farmers to spray chemicals (such as pesticides) over a large area ▪ a crop *duster*

3 *US, somewhat old-fashioned* : a long light coat ▪ He wore a tan *duster*.

dusting *noun* [*singular*]

1 : the act of making something clean by brushing or wiping away dirt and dust from the surface ▪ The table needs *dusting*. ▪ The shelves need a good *dusting*.

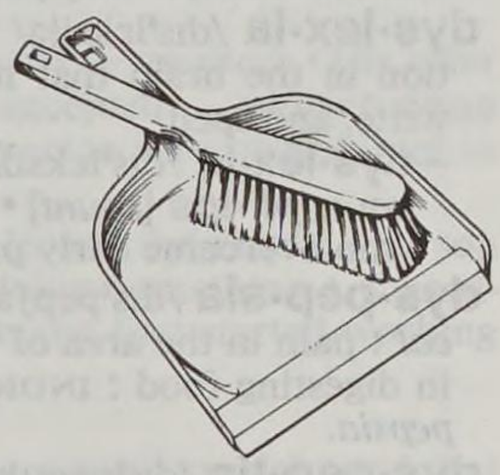
2 : a small amount of something that falls over a surface ▪ There was a light *dusting* of snow on the ground.

dust jacket *noun, pl* ~ **-ets** [*count*] : a paper cover that protects a book and can be removed ▪ The *dust jacket* was torn. — called also *dust cover, jacket*

dust•man /ˈdʌstmən/ *noun, pl* **-men** /-mən/ [*count*] *Brit* : GARBAGEMAN

dust mite *noun, pl* ~ **mites** [*count*] : a very small creature that lives in the dust in your house and that can cause an allergic reaction

dust•pan /ˈdʌstˌpæn/ *noun, pl* **-pans** [*count*] : a flat pan that is open on one side and into which dirt from the floor is swept ▪ Here's a broom and *dustpan*. Go sweep the kitchen.



dustpan

dust sheet *noun, pl* ~ **sheets** [*count*] *Brit* : a large piece of cloth that is used to protect furniture from dust, paint, etc. — compare DROP CLOTH

dust storm *noun, pl* ~ **storms** [*count*] : a very strong wind that carries clouds of dust across a large area

dust•up /ˈdʌstˌʌp/ *noun, pl* **-ups** [*count*] *informal* : a fight or loud argument ▪ He had a *dustup* with a guy in the bar.

dusty /ˈdʌsti/ *adj* **dust•i•er**; **-est** [*also more* ~; *most* ~]

1 : filled or covered with dust ▪ He pulled *dusty* candlesticks from the shelf. ▪ a *dusty* basement ▪ a *dusty* road/town

2 : slightly gray : somewhat dark or dull in color ▪ His new tie is a *dusty* blue.

¹Dutch /ˈdʌtʃ/ *adj* : of or relating to the Netherlands ▪ *Dutch* history ▪ Her family is *Dutch*. ▪ a *Dutch* woman

²Dutch *noun*

1 [*noncount*] : the language of the Netherlands ▪ He speaks *Dutch* fluently.

2 ***the Dutch*** : the people of the Netherlands ▪ He loves learning about *the Dutch*.

³Dutch *adv*

go Dutch : to go to a movie, restaurant, etc., as a group with each person paying for his or her own ticket, food, etc. ▪ We *went Dutch* on dinner. ▪ I'll *go Dutch* with you on the movie if you want.

Dutch courage *noun* [*noncount*] *chiefly Brit, informal* : courage or confidence that a person gets from drinking alcohol

Dutch door *noun, pl* ~ **doors** [*count*] *US* : a door that is divided into a top and bottom half that open and close separately

Dutch elm disease *noun* [*noncount*] : a disease that kills elm trees and that is caused by a fungus

Dutch•man /ˈdʌtʃmən/ *noun, pl* **-men** /-mən/ [*count*] : a Dutch man

Dutch oven *noun, pl* ~ **-ens** [*count*] *US* : a large covered pot

Dutch treat *noun* [*noncount*] *chiefly US* : something (such as a dinner or movie) for which each person pays his or her own share of the cost ▪ It was *Dutch treat*—we each bought our own ticket. ▪ a *Dutch treat* luncheon

du•ti•ful /ˈduːtɪfəl, *Brit* ˈdjuːtɪfəl/ *adj* [*more* ~; *most* ~] : doing what is expected of you ▪ a *dutiful* servant/daughter/father ▪ the *dutiful* way he took care of his sick mother

– **du•ti•ful•ly** /ˈduːtɪfli, *Brit* ˈdjuːtɪfli/ *adv* ▪ He *dutifully* answered my questions.

du•ty /ˈduːti, *Brit* ˈdjuːti/ *noun, pl* **-ties**

1 : something that is done as part of a job [*count*] His primary/main *duty* at the event is to take attendance. ▪ If new employees are unable to carry out their *duties*, they may be fired. ▪ She has a variety of adminsitrative *duties*. [*noncount*] Please ***report for duty*** [=show up for work] at 7 a.m. ▪ This year no firefighters/police were killed ***in the line of duty***. [=while they were doing their jobs] ▪ In helping them, he went ***beyond the call of duty***. [=did more than he was required or expected to do] ***synonyms*** see ¹TASK

2 : something that you must do because it is morally right or because the law requires it [*count*] We felt it was our *duty* to help. ▪ He has a *duty* to support his family. [*noncount*] They helped her out of a sense of *duty*. ▪ I'll be ready when ***duty calls***. ▪ He was selected for ***jury duty***. [=to serve on a jury]

3 [*noncount*] : active military service ▪ Her brother returned from *duty* overseas. ▪ a twelve-month ***tour of duty*** ▪ Many reserve troops were called into ***active duty***.

4 : a tax on goods that are being brought into a country [*count*] All goods had a 15 percent (import) *duty*. ▪ ***customs duties*** [*noncount*] We had to pay *duty* on our souvenirs.

do duty as **1** : to do the work of (someone or something) ▪ He *did (double) duty as* the star and director of the film. **2** : to be used as (something) ▪ The backpack she uses at school also *does duty as* an overnight bag.

off duty : not working at a particular time ▪ I go *off duty* in two hours.

on duty : working at a particular time ▪ I can't take any personal calls while I'm *on duty*.

– see also HEAVY DUTY

duty–free /ˌduːtiˈfriː, *Brit* ˌdjuːtiˈfriː/ *adj*

1 : not taxed when taken into another country ▪ *duty-free* goods

2 : selling goods that will not be taxed when taken into another country ▪ I bought chocolate at the ***duty-free shop*** at the airport.

– **duty–free** *adv* ▪ A certain amount of liquor can be imported *duty-free*.

du•vet /duˈveɪ, ˈduːˌveɪ/ *noun, pl* **-vets** [*count*] *chiefly Brit* : COMFORTER

DVD /ˌdiːˌviːˈdiː/ *noun, pl* **DVDs** [*count*] : a computer disk that contains a large amount of information (such as a movie) ▪ a *DVD* player ▪ The movie just came out ***on DVD***.; *also* : a movie that is recorded on a DVD ▪ Do you want to pick up a few *DVDs* for the weekend? ✧ *DVD* is an abbreviation of "digital video disc" or "digital versatile disc."

DVR /ˌdiːˌviːˈɑɚ/ *noun, pl* **DVRs** [*count*] : a machine that is used to make and watch recordings of television programs ✧ DVR is an abbreviation of "digital video recorder."

¹dwarf /ˈdwoɚf/ *noun, pl* **dwarfs** /ˈdwoɚfs/ *also* **dwarves** /ˈdwoɚvz/ [*count*]

1 *in stories* : a creature that looks like a small man and that often lives underground and has magical powers

2 *sometimes offensive* : a person who is much smaller than most people because of a medical condition

– see also WHITE DWARF

– **dwarf•ish** /ˈdwoɚfɪʃ/ *adj*

²dwarf *verb* **dwarfs**; **dwarfed**; **dwarf•ing** [+ *obj*] : to make (something) look very small or unimportant when compared

with something else — usually used as *(be) dwarfed* ▪ The bike *was dwarfed* by the truck next to it. [=the bike looked very small compared to the truck]

[3]dwarf *adj, always used before a noun, of a plant or animal* : smaller than normal size ▪ *dwarf* evergreens ▪ a *dwarf* porcupine

dwarf•ism /'dwoə,fɪzəm/ *noun* [*noncount*] *medical* : a condition that causes a person to stop growing before reaching normal adult size

dweeb /'dwi:b/ *noun, pl* **dweebs** [*count*] *US, informal* : a person who behaves awkwardly around other people and usually has unstylish hair, clothes, etc. ▪ She's such a *dweeb*. – **dweeby** /'dwi:bi/ *adj* ▪ I was a *dweeby* kid.

dwell /'dwɛl/ *verb* **dwells**; **dwelled** /'dwɛld, 'dwɛlt/ *or* **dwelt** /'dwɛlt/; **dwell•ing** [*no obj*] *literary + formal* : to live in a particular place ▪ a cave where bats *dwell* ▪ He *dwelled* [=*lived*] in the same town for years. ▪ In ancient Greek mythology, Mount Olympus was the ***dwelling place*** of the gods. [=the place where the gods lived]

dwell on/upon [*phrasal verb*] ***dwell on/upon (something)*** : to think or talk about (something) for a long time ▪ There is no need to *dwell on* the past. ▪ Don't *dwell upon* your mistakes.

dwell•er /'dwɛlə/ *noun, pl* **-ers** [*count*] : a person or animal that lives in a particular place ▪ a city *dweller* ▪ cave *dwellers*

dwelling *noun, pl* **-ings** [*count*] *formal* : a place where a person lives ▪ cave *dwellings* ▪ Sales of single-family *dwellings* [=*houses*] are improving.

DWI /,di:,dʌbəlju'aɪ/ *noun, pl* **DWIs** [*count, noncount*] *US* : DUI ✧ *DWI* is an abbreviation of "driving while intoxicated."

dwin•dle /'dwɪndl̩/ *verb* **dwin•dles**; **dwin•dled**; **dwin•dling** [*no obj*] : to gradually become smaller ▪ Our energy *dwindled* as the meeting dragged on. ▪ The town's population is *dwindling* away. ▪ *dwindling* resources/numbers

[1]dye /'daɪ/ *noun, pl* **dyes** [*count, noncount*] : a substance used for changing the color of something (such as hair or cloth) usually permanently ▪ purple *dye* ▪ hair *dye*

[2]dye *verb* **dyes**; **dyed**; **dye•ing** [+ *obj*] : to change the color of (something, such as hair or cloth) by using a dye ▪ She had been *dyeing* her hair for years. ▪ The fabric is bleached, *dyed*, and then washed. ▪ *dyed* hair — see also TIE-DYEING

dyed–in–the–wool /,daɪdn̩ðə'wʊl/ *adj, always used before a noun, often disapproving* : having very strong beliefs, opinions, etc., that you are not willing to change ▪ He is known as a *dyed-in-the-wool* conservative.

[1]dying *present participle of* [1]DIE

[2]dy•ing /'dajɪŋ/ *adj, always used before a noun* : happening as someone dies : relating to someone's death ▪ It was her ***dying wish*** [=her last wish] to see them married. ▪ I will remember his words ***until my dying day***. [=until I die]

[1]dyke *chiefly Brit spelling of* DIKE

[2]dyke /'daɪk/ *noun, pl* **dykes** [*count*] *informal + offensive* : LESBIAN

[1]dy•nam•ic /daɪ'næmɪk/ *adj*

1 [*more ~; most ~*] **a** : always active or changing ▪ a *dynamic* city ▪ a *dynamic* relationship **b** : having or showing a lot of energy ▪ a *dynamic* [=*enthusiastic*] speaker ▪ an exciting and *dynamic* performance

2 *technical* : of or relating to energy, motion, or physical force ▪ the *dynamic* theory of heat ▪ *dynamic* and potential energy

– **dy•nam•i•cal•ly** /daɪ'næmɪkli/ *adv* ▪ The camera moves *dynamically* around the actors.

[2]dynamic *noun, pl* **-ics**

1 : the way that two or more people behave with each other because of a particular situation [*singular*] the *dynamic* between a doctor and a patient ▪ the teacher-student *dynamic* [*plural*] Group *dynamics* are important to consider. ▪ The *dynamics* of this class are different from those of other classes.

2 [*count*] : something that causes change or growth in something else ▪ Disease was a central *dynamic* in the decrease in population. ▪ a study on famine and population *dynamics*

3 *dynamics* [*noncount*] *technical* : the science that studies motion and the forces that cause or stop motion ▪ molecular/fluid *dynamics*

4 *dynamics* [*plural*] *music* : changes in how loudly a piece of music is played or sung ▪ *Dynamics* greatly affect the impact of the music.

dy•na•mism /'daɪnə,mɪzəm/ *noun* [*noncount*] *somewhat formal* : energy and a strong desire to make something happen ▪ He has the *dynamism* of a natural leader.

[1]dy•na•mite /'daɪnə,maɪt/ *noun* [*noncount*]

1 : a powerful explosive that is often used in the form of a stick ▪ a stick of *dynamite*

2 : someone or something that may cause arguments or trouble ▪ The death penalty is political *dynamite*.

[2]dynamite *verb* **-mites**; **-mit•ed**; **-mit•ing** [+ *obj*] : to blow up (something) using dynamite ▪ They plan to *dynamite* the old building.

[3]dynamite *adj, informal* : exciting and very impressive or pleasing ▪ Her new album is *dynamite*! [=*terrific, wonderful*] ▪ They put on a *dynamite* performance.

dy•na•mo /'daɪnə,moʊ/ *noun, pl* **-mos** [*count*]

1 : a machine that produces electricity : GENERATOR

2 *informal* : someone who has a lot of energy ▪ He's a *dynamo* on-screen. ▪ a human *dynamo*

dy•nas•ty /'daɪnəsti, *Brit* 'dɪnəsti/ *noun, pl* **-ties** [*count*]

1 : a family of rulers who rule over a country for a long period of time ▪ a *dynasty* that ruled China for nearly 300 years; *also* : the period of time when a particular dynasty is in power ▪ There was a civil war during the *dynasty*.

2 : a family, team, etc., that is very powerful or successful for a long period of time ▪ She was born into a powerful political *dynasty*. ▪ a baseball *dynasty*

– **dy•nas•tic** /daɪ'næstɪk, *Brit* dɪ'næstɪk/ *adj, always used before a noun* ▪ *dynastic* succession

dys•en•tery /'dɪsn̩,teri, *Brit* 'dɪsn̩tri/ *noun* [*noncount*] *medical* : a serious disease that causes severe diarrhea and a loss of blood

dys•func•tion /dɪs'fʌŋkʃən/ *noun, pl* **-tions**

1 [*noncount*] : the condition of having poor and unhealthy behaviors and attitudes within a group of people ▪ family *dysfunction*

2 *medical* : the state of being unable to function in a normal way [*noncount*] treatment for erectile/sexual *dysfunction* [*count*] The disease causes gastrointestinal *dysfunctions*.

– **dys•func•tion•al** /dɪs'fʌŋkʃənl/ *adj* [*more ~; most ~*] ▪ He hated spending holidays with his girlfriend's *dysfunctional* family. ▪ a *dysfunctional* kidney

dys•lex•ia /dɪs'lɛksijə/ *noun* [*noncount*] *medical* : a condition in the brain that makes it hard for a person to read, write, and spell

– **dys•lex•ic** /dɪs'lɛksɪk/ *adj* ▪ a *dyslexic* child – **dyslexic** *noun, pl* **-ics** [*count*] ▪ a *dyslexic* [=a person with dyslexia] who overcame early problems with reading

dys•pep•sia /dɪs'pɛpʃə, dɪs'pɛpsijə/ *noun* [*noncount*] *medical* : pain in the area of your stomach caused by a difficulty in digesting food : INDIGESTION ▪ He is suffering from *dyspepsia*.

dys•pep•tic /dɪs'pɛptɪk/ *adj*

1 : suffering from pain caused by digestive problems ▪ *dyspeptic* patients

2 *formal + old-fashioned* : having a bad temper ▪ a *dyspeptic* old man

dys•to•pia /dɪs'toʊpijə/ *noun, pl* **-pias** [*count*] : an imaginary place where people are unhappy and usually afraid because they are not treated fairly — compare UTOPIA

– **dys•to•pi•an** /dɪs'toʊpijiən/ *adj* ▪ a *dystopian* society

dystrophy see MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY